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United Nations Development Programme

PROJECT DOCUMENT

Nepal

Project Title: **Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the areas affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake (LIDRE)**
Project Number: 01004107
Implementing Partner: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Start Date: 01 March 2025 **End Date:** 28 February 2026 **PAC Meeting date:** 18 February 2025

Brief Description

Nepal, recognized as one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world, is extremely vulnerable to climate change and natural hazards, including earthquakes, storms, landslides, floods (including from glacier lake outbursts), forest fires and droughts, with nearly 80 per cent of the population directly exposed to these risks. Each year, hundreds of lives are lost and thousands of people are affected by climate induced disasters such as floods and landslides.

On 03 November 2023, a 6.4 magnitude earthquake struck Karnali Province, with the epicenter identified near Ramindanda of Jajarkot district. The initial earthquake, followed by at least 466 aftershocks, caused catastrophic damage resulting in a total of 154 deaths (70 males and 84 females) and 366 injuries, and at least 250,000 people directly affected. Out of 18 districts impacted by the earthquake, Jajarkot and West Rukum were most heavily impacted. The Provincial Emergency Operation Center of Karnali Province reported that 171 drinking water schemes, 17 irrigation schemes, 355 schools, 54 police stations, 42 public buildings, and five micro hydro schemes were fully or partially damaged. The earthquake impacted more than 62,000 private houses with significant damages to livelihoods, affecting cattle farming and beekeeping, and impacting agriculture production/storage and related infrastructure.

Through the project "Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the areas affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake (LIDRE)", UNDP will utilize its long-standing experience in supporting Nepal's disaster risk preparedness, response, and recovery to support early recovery and reconstruction in the areas most affected by the earthquake. The proposed interventions will not only support the communities to recover from the earthquake but also build capacities of the local governments to restore disrupted public services, enhance disaster preparedness and start long-term recovery and reconstruction. In close collaboration with the local governments and other ongoing initiatives in the area, the Project will contribute to: 1) strengthen governance capacity for delivery of basic services and enabling environment for long-term reconstruction and resilience; 2) promote community-led reconstruction of damaged small infrastructures for livelihoods opportunities, coupled with psychosocial support; and 3) strengthen capacities and mechanisms for emergency preparedness and response to enhance resilience against future disasters. The project will be implemented for 12 months in 2 districts namely Jajarkot and Rukum West and 5 local governments namely, Bheri, Nalgadh, Sanibheri, Athbiskot and Barekot of Karnali Province under the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) in partnership with UN-Habitat recognized as Responsible Party for the project.

Contributing Outcome (UNSDCF, CPD, RPD):
By 2027, more people, especially women, youth, and the most marginalised 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.

Indicative Output(s) with gender marker:
Output 1: Local and district level governance in earthquake-affected areas strengthened to ensure continuity of basic service delivery, support long-term reconstruction, and enhance disaster preparedness – GEN2
Output 2: Earthquake-affected community resilience enhanced in selected districts and local governments – GEN2

Total resources required:		USD 1,719,212
Total resources allocated:		
	Government of Japan:	USD 1,639,212[1]
	UNDP:	USD 80,000
Unfunded:		N/A

Agreed by:

UNDP

Signed by:
kyoko Yokosuka
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Kyoko Yokosuka, Resident Representative

Date: 25 March 2025

[1] Excludes 1% coordination levy of US$ 16,392.12

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I. DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

Nepal is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world. It is extremely vulnerable to climate change and natural hazards, including earthquakes, storms, landslides, floods (including from glacier lake outbursts), forest fires and droughts, with nearly 80 per cent of the population directly exposed to these risks. Each year, hundreds of lives are lost in water induced disasters such as floods and landslides and thousands of people are affected. Being one of the most seismically active regions in the world, the risk of a major earthquake always looms large. The dynamics of climate change add another dimension to disaster risk in Nepal. The impacts of climate change are projected to have serious consequences on Nepal's economy and the livelihoods of poor and vulnerable people, who are occupying marginal lands prone to hydrometeorological hazards and lack adequate capacity to respond to risks.

Karnali, one of the seven provinces of Nepal with the second lowest Human Development Index, is prone to several hazards including earthquakes, floods, landslides, droughts, and forest fires. Vulnerability factors, such as harsh climatic conditions and fragile terrain, limited infrastructure, scarce health facilities, and chronic issues such as poverty and malnutrition combined with hazards has led to high risks, with climate change further exasperating these existing risks.

On 03 November 2023, a 6.4 magnitude earthquake struck Karnali Province, with the epicenter identified near Ramindanda of Jajarkot district. The initial earthquake, which was followed by at least 466 aftershocks, caused catastrophic damage. This is among the largest earthquakes to impact Nepal since the 7.8 and 7.3 magnitude earthquakes in April and May 2015. The impact was felt across 13 districts of Karnali, Sudurpashchim, and Lumbini Provinces according to the National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC)[2]. The earthquake and aftershocks caused catastrophic devastation, resulting in a total of 154 deaths (70 males and 84 females) and 366 injuries, and at least 250,000 people directly affected. Jajarkot and Rukum West in Karnali Province were the two districts most heavily impacted by the earthquake and its aftershocks.

The Provincial Emergency Operation Center of Karnali Province reported that 171 drinking water schemes, 17 irrigation schemes, 355 schools, 54 police stations, 42 public buildings, and five micro hydro schemes were either fully or partially damaged in 18 local governments. More than 62,000 private houses have been impacted. The earthquake caused significant damages to livelihoods, affecting cattle farming and beekeeping, and impacting agriculture production/storage and other related infrastructure. Agriculture is the main source of livelihood of the earthquake affected districts, followed by remittances. According to the 2021 census, 81.6% and 75.9% of the population, above 10 years, in Jajarkot and Rukum West districts respectively were engaged in agriculture in the last 12 months preceding the census, reflecting the high dependency.

The Government of Nepal, together with development and humanitarian partners, responded to the earthquake by undertaking response and relief activities in the initial days. The Cluster Mechanism led by the government and co-led by development partners were activated. After initial response and relief, the shift towards recovery and reconstruction is currently underway. The Humanitarian Country Team prepared the Joint Recovery Action Plan (JRAP) with the aim to support to 250,000 people with an estimated total budget of USD 96 million and some of the components of JRAP has been implemented UNDP is the co-lead of the Early Recovery Cluster at federal and provincial levels and the cluster was activated in the aftermath of the earthquake. Together with the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA), UNDP co-led the development of the Early Recovery components of the Joint Recovery Action Plan and priority activities were endorsed in the meeting of the Early Recovery Cluster on 1 April 2024. The government has made a provision of 50,000 NRs to each affected household for construction of temporary

[2] https://dpnet.org.np/uploads/files/Jajarkot%20EQ%20Analysis%20Report_compressed%202024-03-08%2014-12-58.pdf

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shelter. On 26 February 2024, the Government of Nepal decided to declare the earthquake affected areas as disaster/emergency. The government has recently finalized the recovery and reconstruction action plan which is being rolled out and implemented.

In the earthquake affected areas, several district and local government offices are providing basic service delivery from tents, containers and damaged office buildings, which hampers effective delivery of basic services to the population. Pending to implementation of government's long-term recovery and reconstruction action plan, the reconstruction of damaged / destroyed government buildings will need some time. Office equipment was also damaged during the earthquake and there is a need for replacements and upgrades. Further, there is a need for construction of temporary structures such as prefabs for government buildings along with office equipment to enable effective service delivery.

Consultations with communities and government has highlighted the need for livelihoods support as livelihoods assets belonging to women and the marginalized groups such as occupational caste groups and people living with disabilities were significantly affected. Provision of short- and medium-term livelihoods interventions will help the affected communities and groups to bounce back. Early provision of cash for work for debris management was well received by the communities and requests for additional support for income generation have been expressed. The earthquake-affected local governments are also prone to climate hazards such as floods, landslides, and drought/water scarcity, and there is an urgent need to strengthen disaster preparedness and response for long-term resilience building.

II. STRATEGY

Building on the past early recovery and disaster preparedness support by UNDP, the Project is primarily focused on supporting for livelihoods recovery of the communities affected by the earthquake and enhancing risk mitigation and disaster preparedness to avert future disaster risks. While doing so, the Project's support will be crucial to meet the current gaps in delivery of public and livelihoods services disrupted by the earthquake and support for transitioning to long-term recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation programme of the government, which is expected to start soon. The NDRRMA has recently completed assessment of post-disaster recovery needs; finalized the post-disaster recovery framework and approved the post disaster recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation guidelines, which form strong foundation for reconstruction and rehabilitation work to start. The proposed interventions will help the communities recover from the earthquake impact in immediate term, build capacities of the local governments to respond to future disaster risks and facilitate smooth implementation of reconstruction in medium and long-term. UNDP's on-going support to NDRRMA to prepare recovery and reconstruction action plan and guidelines, conducting detail damage assessment and the past experience of inclusive and owner-driven reconstruction in the aftermath of the Gorkha earthquake, will build necessary ground for the government to start reconstruction of permanent houses and institute long-term recovery measures. UNDP's support under the Project will enable the local governments to take ownership of recovery and reconstruction and strengthen their capacities to coordinate, implement and monitor the long-term reconstruction.

UNDP will leverage its knowledge and extensive experience gained from past and on-going projects in Karnali province and in other parts of the country related to livelihoods recovery, community infrastructure development, and strengthening capacities of the local governments for disaster preparedness and long-term recovery and reconstruction during implementation of the Project. Further UNDP as co-lead of the Early Recovery Cluster at federal level and at province levels including in Karnali and having been substantively

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engaged in the post-Gorkha Earthquake recovery and reconstruction, will play an important role in transitioning from early recovery actions to long-term recovery and reconstruction led by the local governments. Following specific experiences gained by UNDP will contribute to the project goal: ***effective earthquake recovery and long-term resilience, by enhancing government capacity for service delivery, support reconstruction, and promote revitalized livelihoods.***

a) 2017-2021: construction more than 46,200 resilient houses and development of inclusive recovery policy post-Gorkha earthquake recovery and reconstruction – supported by Social Technical Facilitation Support Project, funded by the Government of India.

b) 2024: construction 7 prefab structures for the local governments and district offices in Jajarkot and Rukum West post-2023-Jajarkot earthquake – supported by Strengthening Urban Preparedness and Earthquake Response (SUPER) project, funded by UNDP. ECHO.

c) 2022-2024: strengthened capacities of 5 municipalities and 3 provinces including Karnali for disaster preparedness and risk governance through preparation of disaster/earthquake preparedness plans, effective coordination, emergency planning and information management – supported by Strengthening Urban Preparedness and Earthquake Response (SUPER) project, funded by

d) 2020-2024: built community infrastructure including 10 schemes of irrigation canals and common facility centers in east Nepal – supported by Developing Climate Resilient Livelihoods in the Vulnerable Watershed in Nepal (DCRL) Project, funded by GEF/LDCF

e) 2024: built 5 irrigation facilities and agriculture processing centers 5 in Karnali province – supported by Renewable Energy for Resilient Agriculture Systems (RERAS) project, funded by Government of Norway

f) 2022-2023: implementing Local Infrastructure Support Programme pilot in 15 LGs of Karnali Province including construction of over 90 community infrastructure including improvement of rural road, water supply and drainage and building irrigation canal, warehouse/cold store, and community buildings – supported by Local Infrastructure Support Programme, funded by UNDP

g) 2023-2024: building capacities of the communities and Barekot rural and Nalgadh municipalities of Jajarkot district to build resilient livelihoods through construction of 3 green infrastructure for disaster risk mitigation , 196 green jobs creation, 500 households supported through climate smart agriculture, 1100 households supported through clean cooking stoves, 750 solar home system and installed 4 hydro-met stations for strengthening; EWS - supported by 'Enhancing Human Security Through Local Climate Action' project, funded by the Government of Japan.

Theory of Change

Following Theory of Change (ToC) is envisioned to achieve the project overarching goal of "***effective earthquake recovery and long-term resilience, by enhancing government capacity for service delivery, support reconstruction, and promote revitalized livelihoods"***

"If the damaged government buildings are immediately replaced by prefab structures and equipment; and risk governance of the municipalities strengthened, then the disrupted public services will be restored and transition towards long long-term recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation will be smooth".

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"If the critical community infrastructure damaged by the earthquake are immediately rebuilt, then the livelihood services of the poor, women and vulnerable community lost by the earthquake will be restored, and new livelihood opportunities will be created".
"If the capacities of the local governments and community to respond to disasters are increased through improved disaster preparedness and emergency response, the community will be able to reduce the loss from future disasters and enhance long-term resilience to risks".

To realize this a range of synchronized interventions are proposed under the Project which includes : i) restoration of public services disrupted by the earthquake through construction of pre-fab structures at local and district levels and upgrading/replacement of damaged office equipment contributing to **Specific Objective 1:** ***To enhance capacities of earthquake-affected local governments for effective basic service delivery, reconstruction, and long-term resilience;*** ii) building critical community infrastructures needing repair and reconstruction such as watermills, irrigation canals, common facility centres for tailoring and iron smiths, solar-powered cold storage, beehive and tailoring equipment, and training to community members contributing to **Specific Objective 2:** ***To strengthen sustainable and resilient livelihoods of earthquake affected people and communities;*** and iii) strengthening emergency preparedness and response capacities and mechanisms through simulations, search and rescue equipment, coordination, information management and SOPs; and updating risk management plans and awareness generation contributing to **Specific Objective 3: To enhance capacity of local governments on emergency preparedness and response through improved plans/procedures, response equipment and response facilities.**

Given a short duration of 12 months implementation and it builds on immediate recovery needs of the community and the local governments, high ownership of the project results by the community and local governments is expected. As the project approaches will be guided by lessons learnt and experiences gained from other similar projects and initiatives, project implementation is expected to be very smooth and on-time without any disruptions, except the unpredicted impacts from new earthquake and climatic disasters.

Contribution to the global and national development frameworks

The Project is in-line with UNDP's Strategic Plan (2022-2025) to support in building resilience through enhance of institutional capacity at Local Level and communities to respond to systematic uncertainty and risk. The Project's specifically supports the 'Resilience' signature solution that prioritizes risk-informed planning, gender-responsive policy and interventions and enhancing capacities of local governments on disaster risk management. The project will contribute to the following SP Output and indicators are provided below;

- *3.1 Institutional systems to manage multi-dimensional risks and shocks strengthened at regional, national and sub-national levels*
    - *3.1.1 Number of risk-informed development strategies and plans in place at regional, national and provincial level*
- *3.3 Risk informed and gender-responsive recovery solutions, including stabilization efforts and mine action, implemented at regional, national and sub-national levels*
    - *3.3.3 Number of institutions with gender-responsive resilient recovery strategies or plans in crisis and post-crisis settings, including stabilization and mine action, informed by joint assessments*

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The action contributes to United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023-2027, priority area 3 prioritizes environmental sustainability, climate, and disaster resilience and directly responds to the following key Output indicators of Outcome 3;

Output 3.1. Innovative resilience-building solutions introduced at all levels to reduce risks from disasters and climate change

3.1.2. Number of local governments implementing electronic building permit systems, climate friendly, resilient (infrastructure) guidelines and (health) waste management initiatives (IRRF-3.1.1)
Baseline (2021): 17 | Targets (2027): 34

Output 3.2: Risk informed and gender-responsive recovery solutions, including stabilization efforts and mine action, implemented at regional, national and sub-national levels

3.2.3. Number of federal, provincial and local governments integrating climate-change adaptation responding to gender equality and social inclusion in plans based on NPC mainstreaming guideline (2019) (IRRF-4.2.1) Baseline (2022): 280 | Target (2027): 424

The Project address the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 2015-2030 directly with SDG targets 11, 16, as well 5, 10. 16 and 17. The project also aligns with the objectives of the Commission of Status of Women 66 (2022) and United Nations Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) 2007. f

III. RESULTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Expected Results

The overarching goal of the Project is to support effective earthquake recovery and long-term resilience, by enhancing government capacity for service delivery, support reconstruction, and promote revitalized livelihoods.

The specific objectives to achieve the overarching goals are:

- To enhance capacities of earthquake-affected local governments for effective basic service delivery, reconstruction, and long-term resilience;
- To strengthen sustainable and resilient livelihoods of earthquake affected people and communities; and
- To enhance capacity of local governments on emergency preparedness and response through improved plans/procedures, response equipment and response facilities.

Key output results and interventions will include:

Output 1: Local and district level governance in earthquake-affected areas strengthened to ensure continuity of basic service delivery, support long-term reconstruction, and enhance disaster preparedness

Activity result 1.1: Governance capacity for delivery of basic services and enabling environment for long-term reconstruction and resilience

This will include assessment of priority needs to create facilities, social and environmental screening of sites for setting up prefabs, construction of prefab structure facilities at local and district levels and replacement and upgrading of damaged office equipment. Based on initial discussion with the municipalities and UNDP's visits to the earthquake affected areas, the list for construction of prefab facilities includes the police station

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in Ward Office-1 in Bheri Municipality; Agriculture office, health and Ayurvedic department in Nalgad Municipality; Jadibudi building, and primary health posts in Barekot Municipality; health posts in Aathbiskot Municipality; police station and health posts in Sanibheri Municipality. The final selection of facilities for prefab support will be based on field verification by UNDP in consultation with the local governments. These priortites have also been identified in the Joint Recovery Action Plan, Western Nepal Earthquake, Nepal and the public building damage assessment of Nalagad and Barekot rural municipalities, conducted by UNDP through a technical agency. The office equipment support includes computers, printers, office furniture and communication equipment.

Activity Result 1.2: Community-led reconstruction of damaged small infrastructures for livelihoods opportunities, coupled with psychosocial support

This will include repair and reconstruction of watermills, irrigation canals, common facility centres for tailoring and iron smiths, establishment of solar-powered cold storage, beehive and tailoring equipment, and training to community members. The beehive promotion is important in these high-altitude areas as honey produced is of high quality due to altitude and vegetation. This will support the existing income of vulnerable communities, thus help in building economic resilience. In the targeted areas, some of the communities are aware of the know-how of bee keeping, thus it helps in sustainability of the intervention. Through the Japan Supplementary Budget (JSB) supported by the Government of Japan, 50 people were already supported through beehives and this Project will help to reach additional earthquake-affected population in need.

The Common Facility Centres (CFC) for blacksmiths, tailoring, etc. are important as communities are currently working individually, often using space in their houses. The common facilities will help in bringing the people engaged in similar activities below one shed, thus create better economic opportunities. In addition, as houses were damaged/destroyed this impacted their workplace, and common facilities will help in reviving their livelihoods. The reconstructed irrigation canals will ensure regular supply of water to agricultural lands. The rehabilitated improved water mills will ensure income generation and minimize the drudgery of women. The project will assist in formation of users' group for the reconstruction of infrastructure, establishment of operation and maintenance (O&M) fund of the infrastructure, formulation of procedures for O&M and set a practice of tariff collection for the services utilized from the infrastructure. The solar-powered cold storage will help in storing the agriculture produce, thus facilitate in improving access to urban markets in for example Nepalganj or Birendranagar at appropriate times. At the moment, the quality of power supply is not reliable, hence solar-powered cold storage is important.

Psychosocial support to earthquake affected people will be also provided to 400 affected people. The issue of psychosocial support has been raised by the local governments during consultations including the consultation with Nalgad Municipality and communities. The issue of psychosocial support to communities, including children, is important as some of the communities have highlighted post-earthquake trauma/psychosocial impact.

Output 2: Earthquake-affected community resilience enhanced in selected districts and local governments
Activity results 2.1: Strengthen capacities and mechanisms for emergency preparedness and response (EPR) to enhance resilience against future disasters:

This will include development of EPR capacities and mechanisms, and response procedures for local governments, search and rescue equipment, creating facilities for emergency response, testing and updating of local plans and awareness generation on do's and don'ts related to disasters. The EPR testing will include simulation exercises, and learning will inform the updating of plans. The learning from 'Enhancing human

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security through local climate action' implemented by UNDP in two palikas of Jajarkot (Nalgadh and Barekot) will be further consolidated and replicated in other palikas to build resilience to both climatic and non-climatic risks.

Resources Required to Achieve the Expected Results

UNDP CO will mobilise technical and operation support to provide quality assurance and smooth implementation of the project. UNDP will recruit/engage the following project team members to execute the project: 1 Risk Management Specialist (part-time, 8 months); 1 Resilience Analyst/Urban Planner (full-time, 12 months); 1 Project Associate (IUNV, full-time, 12 months); 1 Communication/Data Management Officer (50% time, 12 months); 1 Finance Officer (50% time, 12 months); 1 Driver (full-time, 12 months); 5 Municipal Associates (full-time, 12 months).

Additional personnel, external technical experts and specialists based on needs at provincial and local levels who will provide necessary backstopping support in respective areas, such as the baseline survey, design and conduct of the simulation exercises, design and implementation of risk mitigation measures among others. Additionally, local partners to support implementation of ground level activities may also be considered depending on the needs.

Table 1: Resources Required for the Expected Results

S.No	Budget Head	Description	Total
1.	**Service Contract - Individual**	Project HR Costs and Information Management Support for EOCs	212,420
2.	**Consultancy Service - Firm**	Consultancy firm cost for activities on 10 pre-fab structures, 9 CFC facilities and small community infrastructure construction implemented by UN-HABITAT	615,000
3.	**Consultancy Service - Firm**	Consultancy firm cost for equipment support, update 5 EPR plans, strengthen capacity of municipalities, construction of 2 cold storage and support for bee-hive installation	477,768
4.	**Trainings /Meetings/ Workshop**	Includes cost to enhance capacity of national and sub-national governments and vulnerable communities as well as coordination events during implementation.	70,000
5.	**Travel**	Travel cost for events during the project implementation.	24,500
6.	**Publication**	Development, publication and dissemination of IEC materials of the project	35,000
7.	**Equipment & Furnitures**	Procurement of office equipment and goods for project management unit and field offices	13,650
8.	**Communication**	Communication cost at the field and project office	4,505
9.	**Operational Cost** – *Building Rent /Repair & Maintenance, Supplies, Over Head, Misc etc.*	Operational cost at the provinces, municipalities and national office	26,622
10.	**Vehicle**	One SUV 4 WD vehicle	40,000
11.	**IT Equipment**	Laptops-5; UPS-5; printer-2	8,000
12.	**IT Support Services**	IT services for the staff	6,448

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13.	**Audit Cost**	Professional Services (Audit)/Micro-assessment	5500
14.	**Delivery Enabling Services to Projects**	Technical Project service cost incurred for services directed to the project.	58,377
15.	**General Management Cost**	GMS 8%	121,423
	TOTAL Resources		1,719,212

Partnerships

The overall Jajarkot Earthquake response and recovery interventions are being led by the Government of Nepal, with support from development partners. Following the response and relief, the Government of Nepal has provided Nepali Rupees (NPR) 50,000 (approx. USD 376) to build temporary shelter to each household, whose house was affected. The government has finalized post-disaster recovery framework and action plan and approved the post disaster recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation guidelines. The Project will ensure close coordination with the Government of Nepal, including NDRRMA, the Karnali provincial government, and affected local governments and districts to align implementation with local priorities and needs.

The Government of Nepal estimated the cost of overall recovery and reconstruction of Jajarkot earthquake, Doti earthquake and Bajhang earthquake to the tune of USD 518 million, of which USD 361 million is estimated for the Jajarkot earthquake recovery and reconstruction. In order to support recovery, the Humanitarian Country Team, Nepal prepared the Joint Recovery Action Plan (JRAP) to complement the ongoing Government of Nepal's effort with a targeted funding of USD 96 million and to assist 250,000 individuals across various clusters. Out of the total funding need, in 2024, UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), provided GBP 13 million (equivalent to USD 16.2 million) to implement activities by four UN agencies – IOM, UNFPA, UNICEF, and WFP – under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office. The support was provided related to water sanitation and hygiene (WASH), nutrition, protection, shelter, and food security needs of approximately 50 thousand earthquake-affected people throughout 2024. The Project will engage with the four UN agencies to learn from their experiences, and ensure any lessons learned are incorporated in Project implementation.

Risks and Assumptions

With a very strict timeline of 12 month of implementation, the Project does not expect high implementation risks due to change in policies and priorities and regulatory or institutional environment of the project. Further since the project interventions directly address the immediate recovery needs of the community and builds on successful examples, selection of beneficiary and choice of interventions are community-led under the supervision of the local government, high level of local ownership is expected. In order to build that ownership, the Project will collaborate directly with the targeted households and the community affected by the earthquake and the 5 local governments, who will be involved in making choice of infrastructure and livelihoods support. The local governments will benefit from capacity building for disaster preparedness to avoid future risks and long-term recovery and reconstruction. The project does not intend to collaborate with the third party or private sector as implementing partner or responsible party of the project but rather engage as service provider without any promise to retain proprietary business secrets and intellectual property rights. The community and the municipality will be pre-informed about engagement with private sector with the scope of work and deliverables. At community level, selection of project beneficiary will be done through community consultation under close guidance of the municipality following the impact data maintained by the municipality.

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The project will use tested models of early recovery support, building community infrastructure and livelihood, and strengthening capacity for effective disaster preparedness and response, which were proven successful in similar contexts, and will have higher chances of success. The recent support provided by UNDP between 2023-2024 through "Enhancing human security through local climate action" project to 2 municipalities (Nalgadh and Barekot) out of 5 project municipalities in two districts (Jajarkot and Sanibheri), has created strong ownership at the local level for deepening risk governance and avoiding future risks through robust preparedness. Considering the engagement of similar nature, it is expected that there will be high appreciation and buy-in of the Project approach by the community and the government at local and district levels. As the project approach is built on past experiences and is in consistent with the government's recent policies for long term recovery and reconstruction and post-disaster recovery plan (PDRP), project implementation is expected to be smooth without any conflict with existing practices and regulatory mechanisms.

However, given the project area is prone to earthquake and climatic disasters, and the local governments are still passing through transition following environmental and operational risks are foreseen during project implementation:

- *A massive earthquake requiring humanitarian response and recovery support for a longer duration requiring engagement of whole federal and local government.*
- *Intense monsoon lasting several weeks and months, thus restricting access to project sites for several weeks and months.*
- *A major flood and landslide affecting project areas requiring response and relief interventions and require significant engagement of local government.*
- *Vulnerable groups including women and Persons with disabilities have limited access to project benefits*
- *A pandemic wave may result in federal / provincial / local governments imposing lockdowns with shift in priority of the federal and municipal level government and lockdowns.*
- *High turnover of local government staff.*

Assumptions:

Political instability and change government at federal level will have limited impact on local government but impact on provincial government cannot be disagreed. However, it is assumed that process of detailed damage assessment of the earthquake-affected houses started by NDRRMA and the Post Disaster Recovery Framework (PDRP) finalized by the Federal government, which reflects government's resource commitments and priorities does not change

Mitigation Measures:

- In case of a major earthquake requiring humanitarian response and recovery, consultation with government and the Embassy of Japan in Nepal, will be done to reprioritize activities without diluting the key focus of the project. The lessons from the Jajarkot earthquake of 2023 in the project area and the September 2024 floods will be useful for managing the action in case a major disaster hit.
- The project will include gender empowerment, disability and social inclusion as a key criterion in activity design and selection of beneficiaries. The structures such as prefabs and community facility centers will have features for easy access to persons with disabilities. The list of beneficiaries will have gender, age and disability segregated data to track progress.
- The intense monsoon duration is around July-September and project activities will be scheduled considering the restricted access to the project areas during this period. In case of major floods and

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landslides, the project interventions will be reassessed with the federal and local government and with advice from the Embassy of Japan in Nepal the activities will be adjusted in terms of activities and geographical areas, if necessary. The lessons from the implementation of the Enhancing human security through local climate action project supported by the Government of Japan will be used as the Jajarkot earthquake's epicentre was one of the local governments of the project.

- The project team based on the ground will provide regular update on any political changes happening at the province or local government level due to change in political landscape at federal level.
- The long-term engagement with local government as well as presence of the project team at local government will help in moving project activities despite the turnover of government officials. The monthly meeting of project team will include the the Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the areas affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake (LIDRE) assessment as one of the agenda and will identify contingency measures to mitigate it. UNDP will also work with local governments, concerned province and federal-level ministries to address the risks related to staff turnover, non-prioritization or low prioritization of project activities by local governments.

Stakeholder Engagement

The major stakeholders of the Project are the district-level and local governments, communities engaged in informal sectors such as wholesale and trade, farming, and people directly and indirectly affected by the Jajarkot earthquake seeking municipal services for reconstruction and rehabilitation. Throughout implementation, the Project will ensure close coordination and consultation with affected communities and people, ensuring their specific needs are prioritized. Close stakeholder engagement, with the local governments and communities, and the affected people, will be facilitated through UNDP's existing work in the affected areas through multiple initiatives. The project is expected to directly benefit 9,100 people and 149,495 people indirectly.

The project will prioritize addressing specific needs of the women, people living with disability and the people belonging to a particular occupational class such as ironsmith and tailoring, etc who had to discontinue their occupation due to earthquake impacts. The project strategies will ensure that the choice of community infrastructure and provision for livelihood support through skill training, equipment, common facility centers, and beekeeping are based on the specific needs of these people and groups in all targeted municipalities. To ensure any adverse impacts of project activities, the project will conduct social and environmental safeguard screening to identify risks, prepare and implement risk mitigation plan, and monitor the progress of implementation. UNDP will ensure organizing regular meeting with the affected community to ensure that their specific concerns are heard and addressed during implementation.

South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSC/TrC)

The Project will explore opportunities to engage Japanese expertise related to earthquake response and recovery through international volunteers, NGOs and private sector. Further partnership with Japanese institutions will be explored during implementation in coordination with the Embassy of Japan Nepal, for greater synergy and support in implementation. Opportunities for exchange of knowledge and technology with specialised international private companies and research institutions will be explored during implementation.

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Gender and Social Inclusion

The project aims at helping communities recovering after the Jajarkot earthquake and will specifically target women and the most vulnerable households, including marginalized groups, throughout its activities. The project municipalities are dominated by Khas Khestri's (40%) along with dominant population of Bishwokarma (23%), Thakuri (14%), Magar (14%), Pariyar (3%) and Hill Brahmin (3%) as well as scattered population of Mijar, Sanyasi, Gurungs, Kumal, Badi and Newa. The women population is at 51% i.e. 76,086 of the total population along with presence of 5,977 persons with disabilities.[3] The populations are found to be economically active with most engaged in the agriculture sector.

The project is based on the needs assessment at the provincial and municipal levels that has put special emphasis on assessing the specific needs of especially vulnerable and marginalized groups, including youth, women, persons with disabilities, Dalits and other marginalized people. The construction of prefab structures is aimed for operationalization and access to basic services (police stations, health posts, agriculture office, health department) that was impeded by the earthquake. This is particularly important in respecting the rights of the people especially following a serious natural disaster (i.e. Jajarkot Earthquake and its disastrous impact on the livelihoods and structures of the people) - the earlier and more effective these services are restored through provisions of alternative buildings for the service providers, the more the rights of the people will be respected and lives saved. In addition, the community-led reconstruction of damaged small infrastructures such as watermills, irrigation canals, common facility centers, cold storage, which will both restore access to crucial infrastructure for livelihoods and economic resilience and support the existing income of vulnerable communities through community employment. The project also provisions for psychosocial support to affected communities including children, which will help tackle the post-earthquake trauma.

During the inception period, an initial Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI) analysis will be prepared for the Project that takes stock of the needs of women, youths, socially excluded groups and persons with disabilities through a rapid assessment processes. The project will initiate a through GESI analysis and apply GESI lens in the design and execution of all activities as well as preparation of action monitoring framework to ensure meaningful participation in project interventions and decision-making process. The project will also ensure close engagement with local communities and a wide range of beneficiaries to inform design and implementation of activities, thus further contributing to a GESI-responsive and locally adapted and relevant approach. The project will prepare and mainstream a Gender Action Plan (GAP) that shall include provisions for prioritized employment for women, offer equal wages with men and women-friendly working environment (e.g. provisions for room for lactating mothers etc.), with trained human resource provisions to assure safe working environment free from harassment and Gender-based Violence (GBV).

Digital Solutions

The project will share with the community and the local governments, the experience of implementing similar initiatives outside the project area supported by UNDP through digital platforms. Particularly experience on construction of community infrastructures, setting-up of pre-fab structures, EWS and capacity building for disaster preparedness, and measures adopted to sustain those structures and mechanism in the long-run will be important for this project. The platform can also be used for live discussions between the communities and the local governments.

3 https://censusnepal.cbs.gov.np/results/population?province=6

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Knowledge

UNDP will ensure that the support provided by the the Government of Japan is fully visibly and duly acknowledged. A communication and visibility plan will be developed at the project inception phase and will be shared with the Embassy. The project results will be disseminated widely as per the communication plan while ensuring visibility of the collaborating partners and the Government of Japan. It will include Op-eds, press releases, human interest stories, and photo stories. Japan's logo will be placed on supplies and other visibility materials including banners and t-shirts, to ensure that end beneficiaries are aware of the generous contribution of the Government of Japan. UNDP will use its social media platforms (Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter) to disseminate information on the impact of this partnership. Ensuring visibility of the Government and the people of Japan will be a key focus throughout implementation of the project both on programmatic fronts as well in knowledge and visibility products. The project will document the lessons learnt from implementation and produce 'lessons learnt' documentation.

Sustainability and Scaling Up

The Project will work in close partnership with GoN and its structures at federal, provincial, and local level, as well as district level which is critical for disaster response. UNDP will continue to maintain regular dialogue and align implementation strategy with relevant entities including NDRRMA, MoFAGA, provincial ministries, and local government, among others. The Project will actively involve elected members and relevant officials from the affected municipalities.

The Project will actively collaborate with existing development programs at the municipal, district, and provincial levels, ensuring a strategic alignment that prevents duplication and enhances synergy for effective earthquake recovery and long-term resilience.

IV. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Cost Efficiency and Effectiveness

Project Management

The project will be directly implemented under UNDP's direct implementation modality (DIM) in collaboration with the project local municipalities and districts, as well as provincial and federal government agencies. UNDP will partner with UN-Habitat Programme Office in Nepal as Responsible Party of the project to support in implementation of infrastructure related work that will include establishment of 10 prefab structures (Output 1), 24 community infrastructure and 9 community facility centers (Output 2). Partnership with UN-Habitat will be formalized through an UN-UN agreement signed between the two based on defined scope of work and agreed modality of implementation, fund management and reporting. The project will work closely with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) under the Ministry of Home Affairs, and the Karnali provincial government. The project will leverage UNDP's ongoing engagement with the Barekot rural municipality and the Nalgad municipality supported by the Government of Japan (Japan Supplementary Budget). It will also leverage the relief and early recovery interventions UNDP undertook in Karnali province, following the Jajarkot earthquake. The project will ensure the principle of Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) is thoroughly integrated in activities and specifically target women and the most vulnerable households including marginalized groups as the main beneficiaries of the project.

UNDP will set up a project team led by the Resilience Analyst/Urban Planner under the technical guidance the Disastrer Risk Management Specialist of the SUPER2 project to implement the project activities on the ground and provide technical assistance to local government and implementing partners. The Resilience

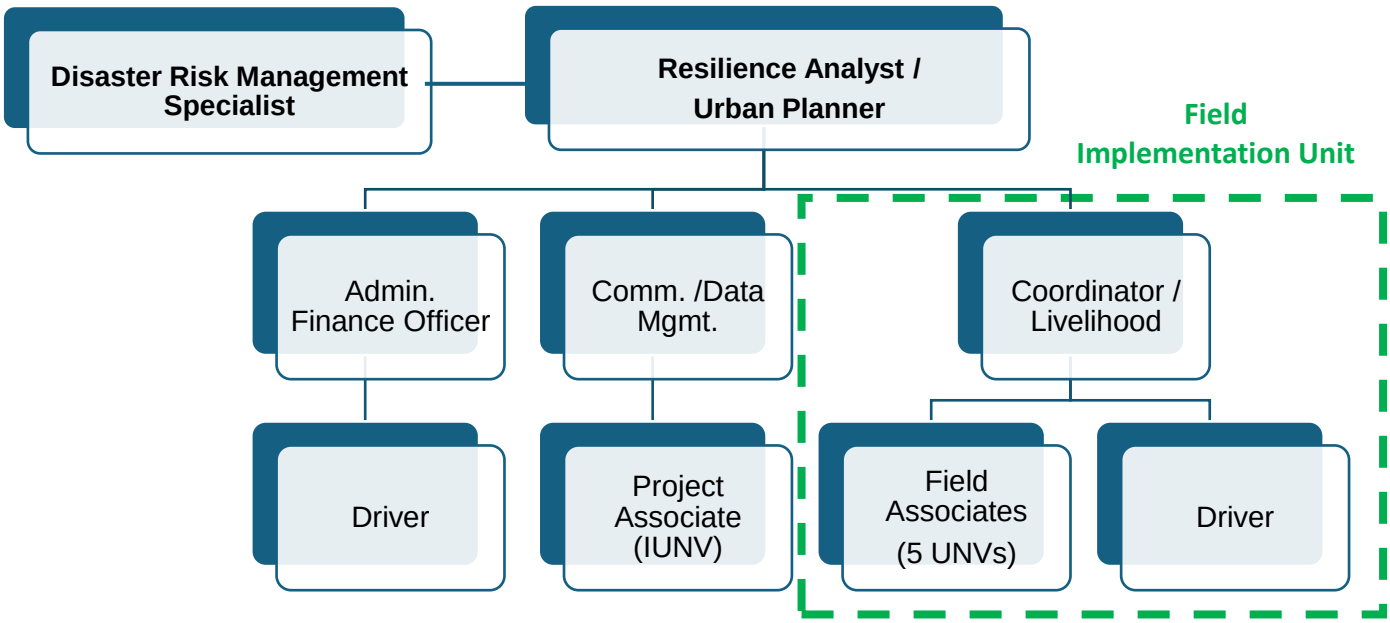
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Analyst/Urban Planner will be supported by Admin. Finance Officer, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Comms. & Data Management Officer and a Project Associate. The Disaster Risk Management Specialist will provide technical guidance to the construction activities to ensure quality of delivery. UNDP will ensure quality of project results, procurement of goods and services from domestic and international suppliers as per standard rules and regulations, conduct regular on-site monitoring through its Field Office and ensure coordination with local governments and other partners. As far as possible UNDP will mobilize national youth volunteers to support data collection and field implementation through the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme. It will explore opportunity to engage Japanese expertise through international volunteer, NGOs and private sector. Further partnership with Japanese institutions will be explored during implementation in coordination with the Embassy of Japan Nepal, for greater synergy and support in implementation. Opportunities for exchange of knowledge and technology with specialised international private companies and research institutions will be explored during implementation.

Field Implementation Unit

The Field Implement Unit will be setup to coordinate with the five project municipalities to provide implement support and oversight. The Field Unit will be managed by Field Coordinator/Engineer and supported by Livelihood/Agriculture expert while municipal associates will remain attached with each of the the municipalities and support in implementation on day-to-day.

Figure 1: Project Staff Structure



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V. RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Intended Outcome as stated in the UNSDCF/Country Programme Results and Resource Framework:
UNSDCF / UNDP Nepal CPD, Outcome 3: By 2027, more people, especially women, youth, and the most marginalised 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.
UNDP Nepal CPD, Output 3.1: Innovative resilience-building solutions introduced at all levels to reduce risks from disasters and climate change.
UNDP Nepal CPD, Output 3.2: Risk informed and gender-responsive recovery solutions, including stabilization efforts and mine action, implemented at regional, national and sub-national levels

Outcome indicators as stated in the Country Programme [or Regional] Results and Resources Framework, including baseline and targets:
3.1.2. Number of local governments implementing electronic building permit systems, climate friendly, resilient (infrastructure) guidelines and (health) waste management initiatives (IRRF-3.1.1) Baseline (2021): 17 | Targets (2027): 34
3.2.3. Number of federal, provincial and local governments integrating climate-change adaptation responding to gender equality and social inclusion in plans based on NPC mainstreaming guideline (2019) (IRRF-4.2.1) Baseline (2022): 280 | Target (2027): 424

Applicable Output(s) from the UNDP Strategic Plan:
3.1 Institutional systems to manage multi-dimensional risks and shocks strengthened at regional, national and sub-national levels
3.3 Risk informed and gender-responsive recovery solutions, including stabilization efforts and mine action, implemented at regional, national and sub-national levels

Project title and Quantum Project Number: Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the Areas Affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake
Quantum ID: 01004107

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS[4]	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)			DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	2025	2026	FINAL	
Output 1: Local and district level governance in earthquake-affected areas strengthened to ensure continuity of basic service delivery, support long-term reconstruction, and enhance disaster preparedness	Number of local government with improved facilities for continued basic service delivery Number of Directly: 9100 | Indirectly: 149,495	Progress /Annual Reports of LGs	0	2024	5 Local govt	0	5 Local governments	- Visit reports by UNDP - Reports by LGs, Districts - Photos **Risks and assumptions:** - Social and environmental screening recommending non-suitability at specific sites - Disaster/earthquake affecting the project area leading to reprioritisation. - Lack of priority for local governments

[4] It is recommended that projects use output indicators from the Strategic Plan IRRF, as relevant, in addition to project-specific results indicators. Indicators should be disaggregated by sex or for other targeted groups where relevant.

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EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS[4]	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)			DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	2025	2026	FINAL	
Activity Result 1.1: Capacities of earthquake affected local governments and districts strengthened to deliver basic public services	Number of prefabs constructed for improved basis service delivery	*Reports by LGs and Districts*	7 prefabs building constructed	2024	5 prefabs building constructed	5 prefabs building constructed	10 prefabs buildings constructed	- Visit reports by UNDP - Reports by LGs, Districts - Photos - Meeting minutes - Handover documents **Risks and assumptions:** - Operations and management budget creation by municipalities and districts delayed - Social and environmental screening recommending non-suitability at specific sites - Disaster/earthquake affecting the project area leading to reprioritisation. - Change in design /additional features
Activity Result 1.2: Resilience to earthquake and climate risks enhanced in earthquake affected local governments	Number of Local Governments with enhanced disaster risk preparedness	Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Plans	2 EPRs prepared for LGs	2024	Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Plan for 3 LGs	Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Plan for 2 LGs	Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Plan for 5 LGs	- EPR Plans - Meeting minutes - Visit reports by UNDP - Photos - Handover documents **Risks and assumptions:** - Disaster/earthquake affecting the project municipalities leading to reprioritisation. - Limited ownership by Municipal impacting its institutionalisation - Operations and management budget creation by municipalities and districts delayed

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EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS[4]	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)			DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	2025	2026	FINAL	
	Number of persons trained on disaster response at the local government and community	*Training Reports/Proceedings*	*0*	*2024*	*1000 person trained on disaster response including 30% beneficiaries including women and youths & 50% of all govt. staffs*		*1000 person trained on disaster response including 30% beneficiaries including women and youths & 50% of all govt. staffs*	- Training Modules - Meeting minutes - Training Reports/Proceedings **Risks and assumptions:** - Disaster/earthquake affecting the project municipalities leading to reprioritisation. - Availability of govt. staffs
Output 2: Earthquake-affected community resilience enhanced in selected districts and local governments	*Increased % of women & marginalized groups engaged in economic activity*	Progress /Annual Reports of LGs	*0*	*2024*	*0*	*5% increment of women & marginalized groups in economic activity*	*5% increment of women & marginalized groups in economic activity*	- Progress /Annual Reports of LGs - Visit reports by UNDP **Risks and assumptions:** - Engagement of targeted beneficiaries - Limited budget by municipality for continuity of awareness generation activities
Activity Result 2.1: Livelihoods opportunities created, and market revitalized through, community infrastructure and other livelihoods interventions	Number of household provided support for improved livelihood from bee keeping support	Progress /Annual Reports of LGs	0	2024	600 people benefitted from livelihood support including 30% women led HHs	200 people benefitted from livelihood support including 30% women led HHs	800 people benefitted from livelihood support including 30% women led HHs	- Visit reports by UNDP - Reports by LGs, Districts - Photos - Meeting minutes - Handover documents **Risks and assumptions:** - Operations and management budget for response facility delayed by municipalities - Disaster/earthquake affecting the project area leading to reprioritisation.

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EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS[4]	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)			DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	2025	2026	FINAL	
								- Limited budget by municipality for continuity of awareness generation activities
	Number of facilities constructed i.e. Community Facility Center and small-scale infrastructure for improved economic opportunities	Progress /Annual Reports of LGs	0	2024	25 (additional) (9 CFC; 20 small community infrastructures)	10 (2 cold storage; 4 small community infrastructures)	35 facilities constructed for improved economic opportunities	- Visit reports by UNDP - Reports by LGs, Districts - Photos - Meeting minutes - Handover documents **Risks and assumptions:** - Operations and management budget for response facility delayed by municipalities - Disaster/earthquake affecting the project area leading to reprioritisation.
	2.3 *Number of people directly benefit from psychosocial counselling support*	Progress /Annual Reports of LGs	*0*	*2024*	*300 community members provided support from psychosocial counselling including 30% women, youth and marginalized groups*	*100 community members provided support from psychosocial counselling including 30% women, youth and marginalized groups*	*400 community members provided support from psychosocial counselling including 30% women, youth and marginalized groups*	- Visit reports by UNDP - Reports by LGs, Districts - Photos - Meeting minutes - Handover documents **Risks and assumptions:** - Operations and management budget for response facility delayed by municipalities - Disaster/earthquake affecting the project area leading to reprioritisation. - Limited budget by municipality for continuity of awareness generation activities

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VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The project will be monitored and evaluated as per standard UNDP Procedure and Guideline. The project team will regularly monitor the project activities as per the project monitoring plan prepared at the inception stage of the project. Project evaluation and audit will be conducted as per UNDP Evaluation Policy and UNDP Financial Regulations. UNDP will brief the Embassy of Japan, Nepal every quarter on progress, achievements and challenges, if any. UNDP will work with the Embassy to arrange joint visits to project sites to review progress and seek feedback from beneficiaries. UNDP will submit project reports to the donor as per standard requirements. The project team will finalize the final narrative report within three months after the completion of project, and the final financial report within one year upon completion of the project.

In accordance with UNDP's programming policies and procedures, the project will be monitored through the following monitoring and evaluation plans:

Monitoring Plan

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Partners (if joint)	Cost (if any)
Track results progress	Progress data against the results indicators in the RRF will be collected and analysed to assess the progress of the project in achieving the agreed outputs.	Quarterly, or in the frequency required for each indicator.	Slower than expected progress will be addressed by project management.	UNDP and UN Habitat	US$ 4,000
Monitor and Manage Risk	Identify specific risks that may threaten achievement of intended results. Identify and monitor risk management actions using a risk log. This includes monitoring measures and plans that may have been required as per UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards. Audits will be conducted in accordance with UNDP's audit policy to manage financial risk.	Quarterly	Risks are identified by project management and actions are taken to manage risk. The risk log is actively maintained to keep track of identified risks and actions taken.	UNDP and UN Habitat	US$ 3,000
Learn	Knowledge, good practices and lessons will be captured regularly, as well as actively sourced from other projects and partners and integrated back into the project.	At least annually	Relevant lessons are captured by the project team and used to inform management decisions.	UNDP	US$ 35,000
Annual Project Quality Assurance	The quality of the project will be assessed against UNDP's quality standards to identify project strengths and weaknesses and to inform management decision making to improve the project.	Annually	Areas of strength and weakness will be reviewed by project management and used to inform decisions to improve project performance.	UNDP	US$ 15,000

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Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Partners (if joint)	Cost (if any)
Review and Make Course Corrections	Internal review of data and evidence from all monitoring actions to inform decision making.	At least annually	Performance data, risks, lessons and quality will be discussed by the project board and used to make course corrections.	UNDP	US$ 2500
Project Report	A progress report will be presented to the Project Board and key stakeholders, consisting of progress data showing the results achieved against pre-defined annual targets at the output level, the annual project quality rating summary, an updated risk log with mitigation measures, and any evaluation or review reports prepared over the period.	Annually, and at the end of the project (final report)	Prepare narrative report of project's activity and financial progress including quality assurance reporting including risk management, SES monitoring etc.	UNDP	US$ 3000
Project Review (Project Board)	The project's governance mechanism (i.e., project board) will hold regular project reviews to assess the performance of the project and review the Multi-Year Work Plan to ensure realistic budgeting over the life of the project. In the project's final year, the Project Board shall hold an end-of project review to capture lessons learned and discuss opportunities for scaling up and to socialize project results and lessons learned with relevant audiences.	Specify frequency (i.e., at least annually)	Any quality concerns or slower than expected progress should be discussed by the project board and management actions agreed to address the issues identified.	UNDP	US$ 10,000

Evaluation Plan

Evaluation Title	Partners (if joint)	Related Strategic Plan Output	UNSDCF/CPD Outcome	Planned Completion Date	Key Evaluation Stakeholders	Cost and Source of Funding
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

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VII. MULTI-YEAR WORK PLAN

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	SUB-ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Year		RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET				TOTAL
			2025	2026		Funding Source	Budget Description	2025	2026	
Output 1.1: Capacities of earthquake affected local governments and districts strengthened to deliver basic public services	Act 1.1: Earthquake affected municipalities and districts strengthened to deliver basic public service	Sub-Act 1.1.1: Prefab structure for earthquake affected local government /district constructed to deliver basic services	X	X	UN-HABITAT	GOJ	Consultancy Service - Firm	300,000	-	300,000
		Sub-Act 1.1.2: Equipment support provided to earthquake affected local government (LG)/district offices to deliver basic services	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Consultancy Service - Firm	105,000	-	105,000
		Technical Assurance (Field Coordinators, Municipal Associate)	X	X	UN-HABITAT	GOJ	Staff Cost	65,036	-	65,036
		MONITORING	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Travel & DSA	2,000	2,000	4,000
	Sub-TOTAL 1.1							**472,036**	**2,000**	**474,036**

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Output 1.2: Resilience to earthquake and climate risks enhanced in earthquake affected local governments	Act. 1.2: Strengthen disaster response capacity of municipality and create awareness at community level	Sub-Act 1.2.1**:** Prepare and update Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Plan and procedure of municipalities	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Consultancy Service - Firm	110,000	-	110,000
		Act 1.2.2: Strengthen disaster response capacity of municipality and create awareness at community level	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Consultancy Service - Firm	114,768	-	114,768
		Technical Assurance (Field Coordinators, Field Staffs, Municipal Associate)	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Staff Cost	31,382	3,487	34,869
		MONITORING			UNDP	GOJ	Travel & DSA	3,000	-	3,000
		Sub-TOTAL 1.2						**259,150**	**3,487**	**262,637**
		Sub-Total for Output 1						**731,186**	**5,487**	**736,673**
Output 2:1: Livelihoods opportunities created, and market	*Act 2.1: Household provided support for improved livelihood interventions*	Sub. Act 2.1.1: Support for 400 HH on bee-hive installation	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Consultancy Service - Firm	48,000	-	48,000

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revitalized through, community infrastructure and other livelihoods interventions	*Act 2.2: Construction of support facilities i.e. Community Facility Center and small-scale infrastructure for improved economic opportunities*	Sub. Act 2.2.1: Construction of 9 CFC	X	X	UN-HABITAT	GOJ	Consultancy Service - Firm	144,000	-	144,000
	Act 2.1: Livelihoods support and community infrastructure	Sub. Act 2.1.2: Reconstruction of small community infrastructure	X	X	UN-HABITAT	GOJ	Consultancy Service - Firm	171,000	-	171,000
		Sub. Act 2.1.3: Construction support for cold storate in 2 municipalities	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Consultancy Service - Firm	100,000	-	100,000
	Act 2.1.2: Psychosocial social support to earthquake affected community	Sub. Act 2.1.2: Psychosocial social support to earthquake affected community	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Training/ Workshop	48,000	12,000	60,000
		Technical specialist / Consultants, Coordinators etc	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Staff Cost	69,361	17,340	86,701
		MONITORING	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Travel & DSA	1,250	1,250	2,500
		Sub-Total for Output 2						**581,611**	**30,590**	**612,201**

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Project Management Cost	Personnel Costs (Staff Costs)	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Staff Cost	20,651	5,163	25,814
	Communication & Visibility	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Publications	24,500	10,500	35,000
	Kick off meeting / Annual review workshop / Project Boards	X	X	UNDP	UNDP	Meeting/ Workshop	7,000	3,000	10,000
	Joint Monitoring/ Assurance Monitoring	X	X	UNDP	UNDP	Travel & DSA	12,000	3,000	15,000
	Office supplies	X	X	UNDP	UNDP	Supplies	5,600	1,400	7,000
	Vehicle (one 4WD)	X	X	UNDP	UNDP	Vehicle Cost	40,000	-	40,000
	IT Equipment (Laptops-5; UPS-5; printer-2)	X	X	UNDP	UNDP	Supplies	8,000	-	8,000
	Professional Services (Audit/Assurance Activities)	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Professional Fee	2,500	3,000	5,500
	Rental & Maintenance Cost (Field Office)	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Rental Cost	9,298	2,324	11,622
	Internet and Communication Cost	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Internet	3,604	901	4,505
	Office running cost (as relevant)	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Maintenance	10,500	4,500	15,000
	Equipment and Furniture	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Equipment	6,650	-	6,650

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	IT Support Services	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	IT Service	5,248	1,200	6,448
	Technical Quality Assurance Cost	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Direct Enabling Service (DES) Cost	49,243	9134	58,377
	General Management Support	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	GMS	115,599	5824	121,423
	Sub-TOTAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT						**320,393**	**49,946**	**370,338**
	TOTAL						**1,633,190**	**86,023**	**1,719,212**

Budget Summary

Donor	2025	2026	Amount
Embassy of Japan	**1,560,590**	**78,623**	**1,639,212**
UNDP	**72,600**	**7,400**	**80,000**
TOTAL	**1,633,190**	**86,023**	**1,719,212**

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VIII. GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

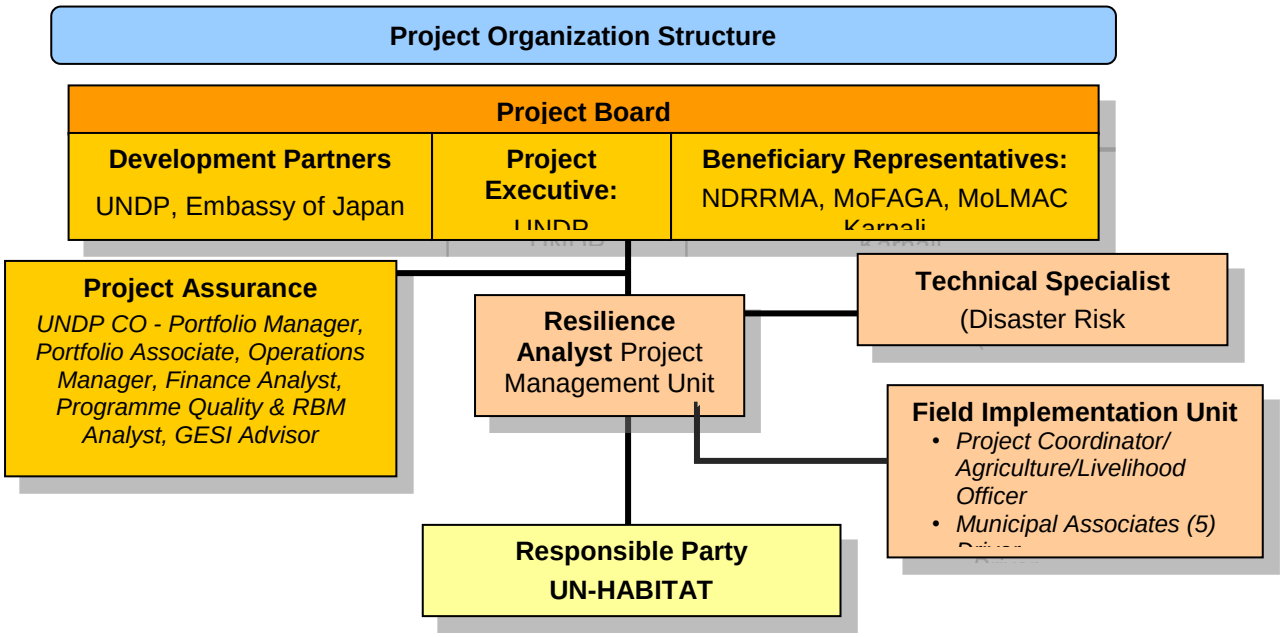
The project will be directly implemented by UNDP Nepal following UNDP's Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) defined in the Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP) in close collaboration with NDRRMA, and relevant provincial and local governments of the project area. The project implementation and management will be guided by the Grant Agreement signed between UNDP and the Government of Japan.

As per the provision of the agreement, UNDP will hold bilateral meetings with the Embassy of Japan on an annual basis to review the project progress, agree on annual project work plans and budgetary matters, addressing implementation challenges and risks.

As per standard practice, UNDP will set up a Project Board, chaired by the UNDP Deputy Resident Representative (DRR), to serve as the highest governance mechanism for overall governance and oversight for project implementation. UNDP's Policy Advisor, Portfolio Manager for Environment and Resilience, Project Manager, UNDP Operations Manager, Programming Quality and RBM Analyst, representatives from Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration and NDRRMA at the federal level and Ministry of Agriculture of Karnali provincial government and the representative of local governments from the project areas, will be members of the Project Board. The Project Board will review project performance based on monitoring, evaluation and reporting, including progress reports, risk logs and financial delivery reports. The Project Board is responsible for making management decisions to ensure best value for money, fairness, timeliness, integrity, transparency, effectiveness and all decision will remain in line with Grant Agreement between the Government of Japan and UNDP.

The Project Board will meet at least once a year and more frequently if so decided by the Board. The Project Board is responsible for making, by consensus, management decisions for the project when guidance is required by the Resilience Analyst, including recommendations for approval of project plans and revisions. In order to ensure accountability, Project Board decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value for money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effectiveness. In case a consensus cannot be reached within the Board, final decision shall rest with UNDP.

Fig 2: Project Board Structure



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The Terms of Reference for the Project Board is provided in Annex: TOR for Project Board and represented diagrammatically in Fig 2: Project Board Structure.

Project Board Mandate: Approve project's annual plans and budgets, progress reports on results and finances, as per Grant Agreement. Discuss overall strategic direction and status of implementation, risks and cross-cutting issues. This is the formal, highest-level decision-making body, accountable for the project's overall management and results. Refer ANNEX: TOR for Project Board

Chaired by: *UNDP, Deputy Resident Representative*

Participants: ***UNDP,*** NDRRMA, Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA), Province Ministry of Agriculture, Land Management and Cooperatives (MoLMAC), Karnali, UN-Habitat

On a day-to-day basis, the Resilience Analyst/Urban Planner at UNDP has the authority to run the project on behalf of UNDP with the constraints laid down by the Project Board and in accordance with the UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP). Representatives of Responsible Parties and other key stakeholders will be invited to Project Board meetings as observers.

The Terms of Reference for the Project Board is provided in Annex: TOR for Project Board.

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IX. LEGAL CONTEXT

This project document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article 1 of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Nepal and UNDP, signed on 16 July 1984. All references in the SBAA to "Executing Agency" shall be deemed to refer to "Implementing Partner."

This project will be implemented by UNDP ("Implementing Partner") in accordance with its financial regulations, rules, practices and procedures only to the extent that they do not contravene the principles of the Financial Regulations and Rules of UNDP. Where the financial governance of an Implementing Partner does not provide the required guidance to ensure best value for money, fairness, integrity, transparency, and effective international competition, the financial governance of UNDP shall apply.

X. RISK MANAGEMENT

1. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will comply with the policies, procedures and practices of the United Nations Security Management System (UNSMS.)

2. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the [project funds][5] [UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document][6] are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism , that the recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder do not appear on the United Nations Security Council Consolidated Sanctions List, and that no UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document are used for money laundering activities. The United Nations Security Council Consolidated Sanctions List can be accessed via https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/un-sc-consolidated-list. This provision must be included in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into under this Project Document.

3. Social and environmental sustainability will be enhanced through application of the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (http://www.undp.org/ses) and related Accountability Mechanism (http://www.undp.org/secu-srm).

4. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will: (a) conduct project and programme-related activities in a manner consistent with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, (b) implement any management or mitigation plan prepared for the project or programme to comply with such standards, and (c) engage in a constructive and timely manner to address any concerns and complaints raised through the Accountability Mechanism. UNDP will seek to ensure that communities and other project stakeholders are informed of and have access to the Accountability Mechanism.

5. In the implementation of the activities under this Project Document, UNDP as the Implementing Partner will handle any sexual exploitation and abuse ("SEA") and sexual harassment ("SH") allegations in accordance with its regulations, rules, policies and procedures.

6. All signatories to the Project Document shall cooperate in good faith with any exercise to evaluate any programme or project-related commitments or compliance with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. This includes providing access to project sites, relevant personnel, information, and documentation.

7. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will ensure that the following obligations are binding on each responsible party, subcontractor, and sub-recipient:

[5] To be used where UNDP is the Implementing Partner

[6] To be used where the UN, a UN fund/programme or a specialized agency is the Implementing Partner

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a. Consistent with the Article III of the SBAA *[or the Supplemental Provisions to the Project Document]*, the responsibility for the safety and security of each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient and its personnel and property, and of UNDP's property in such responsible party's, subcontractor's and sub-recipient's custody, rests with such responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient. To this end, each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient shall:

   i. put in place an appropriate security plan and maintain the security plan, taking into account the security situation in the country where the project is being carried;

   ii. assume all risks and liabilities related to such responsible party's, subcontractor's and sub-recipient's security, and the full implementation of the security plan.

b. UNDP reserves the right to verify whether such a plan is in place, and to suggest modifications to the plan when necessary. Failure to maintain and implement an appropriate security plan as required hereunder shall be deemed a breach of the responsible party's, subcontractor's and sub-recipient's obligations under this Project Document.

c. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient (each a "sub-party" and together "sub-parties") acknowledges and agrees that UNDP will not tolerate sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse of anyone by the sub-parties, and other entities involved in Project implementation, either as contractors or subcontractors and their personnel, and any individuals performing services for them under the Project Document.

   (a) In the implementation of the activities under this Project Document, each sub-party shall comply with the standards of conduct set forth in the Secretary General's Bulletin ST/SGB/2003/13 of 9 October 2003, concerning "Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse" ("SEA").

   (b) Moreover, and without limitation to the application of other regulations, rules, policies and procedures bearing upon the performance of the activities under this Project Document, in the implementation of activities, each sub-party, shall not engage in any form of sexual harassment ("SH"). SH is defined as any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that might reasonably be expected or be perceived to cause offense or humiliation, when such conduct interferes with work, is made a condition of employment or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment. SH may occur in the workplace or in connection with work. While typically involving a pattern of conduct, SH may take the form of a single incident. In assessing the reasonableness of expectations or perceptions, the perspective of the person who is the target of the conduct shall be considered.

d. In the performance of the activities under this Project Document, each sub-party shall (with respect to its own activities), and shall require from its sub-parties (with respect to their activities) that they, have minimum standards and procedures in place, or a plan to develop and/or improve such standards and procedures in order to be able to take effective preventive and investigative action. These should include: policies on sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse; policies on whistleblowing/protection against retaliation; and complaints, disciplinary and investigative mechanisms. In line with this, sub-parties will and will require that their respective sub-parties will take all appropriate measures to:

   (i) Prevent its employees, agents or any other persons engaged to perform any services under this Project Document, from engaging in SH or SEA;

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(ii) Offer employees and associated personnel training on prevention and response to SH and SEA, where sub-parties have not put in place its own training regarding the prevention of SH and SEA, sub-parties may use the training material available at UNDP;

(iii) Report and monitor allegations of SH and SEA of which any of the sub-parties have been informed or have otherwise become aware, and status thereof;

(iv) Refer victims/survivors of SH and SEA to safe and confidential victim assistance; and

(v) Promptly and confidentially record and investigate any allegations credible enough to warrant an investigation of SH or SEA. Each sub-party shall advise UNDP of any such allegations received and investigations being conducted by itself or any of its sub-parties with respect to their activities under the Project Document, and shall keep UNDP informed during the investigation by it or any of such sub-parties, to the extent that such notification (i) does not jeopardize the conduct of the investigation, including but not limited to the safety or security of persons, and/or (ii) is not in contravention of any laws applicable to it. Following the investigation, the relevant sub-party shall advise UNDP of any actions taken by it or any of the other entities further to the investigation.

e. Each sub-party shall establish that it has complied with the foregoing, to the satisfaction of UNDP, when requested by UNDP or any party acting on its behalf to provide such confirmation. Failure of the relevant sub-party to comply of the foregoing, as determined by UNDP, shall be considered grounds for suspension or termination of the Project.

f. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will ensure that any project activities undertaken by them will be implemented in a manner consistent with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards and shall ensure that any incidents or issues of non-compliance shall be reported to UNDP in accordance with UNDP Social and Environmental Standards.

g. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will take appropriate steps to prevent misuse of funds, fraud, corruption or other financial irregularities, by its officials, consultants, subcontractors and sub-recipients in implementing the project or programme or using the UNDP funds. It will ensure that its financial management, anti-corruption, anti-fraud and anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism policies are in place and enforced for all funding received from or through UNDP.

h. The requirements of the following documents, then in force at the time of signature of the Project Document, apply to each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient: (a) UNDP Policy on Fraud and other Corrupt Practices (b) UNDP Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Policy; and (c) UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations Investigation Guidelines. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient agrees to the requirements of the above documents, which are an integral part of this Project Document and are available online at www.undp.org.

i. In the event that an investigation is required, UNDP will conduct investigations relating to any aspect of UNDP programmes and projects. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will provide its full cooperation, including making available personnel, relevant documentation, and granting access to its (and its consultants', subcontractors' and sub-recipients') premises, for such purposes at reasonable times and on reasonable conditions as may be required for the purpose of an investigation. Should there be a limitation in meeting this obligation, UNDP shall consult with it to find a solution.

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j. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will promptly inform UNDP as the Implementing Partner in case of any incidence of inappropriate use of funds, or credible allegation of fraud, corruption other financial irregularities with due confidentiality.

Where it becomes aware that a UNDP project or activity, in whole or in part, is the focus of investigation for alleged fraud/corruption, each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will inform the UNDP Resident Representative/Head of Office, who will promptly inform UNDP's Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI). It will provide regular updates to the head of UNDP in the country and OAI of the status of, and actions relating to, such investigation.

k. UNDP will be entitled to a refund from the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient of any funds provided that have been used inappropriately, including through fraud corruption, other financial irregularities or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Project Document. Such amount may be deducted by UNDP from any payment due to the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient under this or any other agreement. Recovery of such amount by UNDP shall not diminish or curtail any responsible party's, subcontractor's or sub-recipient's obligations under this Project Document.

Where such funds have not been refunded to UNDP, the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient agrees that donors to UNDP (including the Government) whose funding is the source, in whole or in part, of the funds for the activities under this Project Document, may seek recourse to such responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient for the recovery of any funds determined by UNDP to have been used inappropriately, including through fraud, corruption or other financial irregularities, or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Project Document.

Note: The term "Project Document" as used in this clause shall be deemed to include any relevant subsidiary agreement further to the Project Document, including those with responsible parties, subcontractors and sub-recipients.

l. Each contract issued by the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient in connection with this Project Document shall include a provision representing that no fees, gratuities, rebates, gifts, commissions or other payments, other than those shown in the proposal, have been given, received, or promised in connection with the selection process or in contract execution, and that the recipient of funds from it shall cooperate with any and all investigations and post-payment audits.

m. Should UNDP refer to the relevant national authorities for appropriate legal action any alleged wrongdoing relating to the project or programme, the Government will ensure that the relevant national authorities shall actively investigate the same and take appropriate legal action against all individuals found to have participated in the wrongdoing, recover and return any recovered funds to UNDP.

n. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient shall ensure that all of its obligations set forth under this section entitled "Risk Management" are passed on to its subcontractors and sub-recipients and that all the clauses under this section entitled "Risk Management Standard Clauses" are adequately reflected, mutatis mutandis, in all its sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into further to this Project Document.

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XI. ANNEXES

1. **Project Quality Assurance Report**

   QA_EQ_Jajarkot (Design and Appraisal)_25Feb2025.docx

2. **Social and Environmental Screening Plan (Design)**

   SESP_EQ-Jajarkot_Final_24Feb2025.docx

3. **Risk Analysis**.

   Project Risk Register Description_EQ_Jajarkot_03March2025.docx

4. **Project Board Terms of Reference and TORs of key management positions.**

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Annex I: Terms of Reference

1. TOR for Project Board

All UNDP projects must be governed by a multi-stakeholder board or committee established to review performance based on established monitoring and evaluation metrics and high-level implementation issues to ensure quality delivery of results. For the purpose of this ToR and to ensure standardization, henceforth, as regards project documentation, such a body shall only be referred to by 'Project Board'. The Project Board is the most senior, dedicated oversight body for a UNDP 'Development Project', which is defined in the PPM as an instrument where UNDP "Delivers outputs where UNDP has accountability for design, oversight and quality assurance of the entire project."

The Project Board is responsible for making management decisions by consensus when required, including the approval of project plans and revisions, and the project manager's tolerances. The Project Board approves annual work plans and reviews updates to the project risk log.

Within the overall governance and management arrangements of the project, the role of the Project Board as regards these two key functions ('High-level oversight of the project' and 'Approval of key project execution decisions') is distinct from the roles of entities involved in the implementation of the project, namely the implementing partner (IP), responsibilities parties (if applicable), service providers and project staff.

In order to ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability, the Project Board decisions should be made in accordance with the Quality Standards for Programming that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective national and international competition. An effective Project Board needs credible data, evidence, quality assurance and reporting to aid decision making (see next section on supporting functions to the Board). The Project Board also needs to be accountable to protect against conflicts of interest and fraud.

Specific responsibilities of the Project Board include the following:

- Provide overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints, and promote gender equality and social inclusion (LNOB) in the project implementation;
- Review project performance based on monitoring, evaluation and reporting, including standard quality assurance checks, progress reports, risk logs, spot checks/audit reports and the combined delivery report;
- Address any high-level project issues as raised by the project manager and project assurance;
- Provide guidance on emerging and/or pressing project risks and agree on possible mitigation and management actions to address specific risks (including ensuring compliance with UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards, Fraud/corruption, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment);
- Agree or decide on project manager's tolerances as required, within the parameters set by UNDP (Manage Change in the PPM) and the donor, and provide direction and decisions for exceptional situations when the project manager's tolerances are exceeded;
- Advise on major and minor amendments to the project within the parameters set by UNDP and the donor;
- Agree or decide on a project suspension or cancellation, if required; (note that for GEF and GCF projects it is UNDP that decides to suspend or cancel and project and the Project Board is informed/consulted only).
- Provide high-level direction and recommendations to the project management unit to ensure that the agreed deliverables are produced satisfactorily according to plans.
- Receive and address project level grievance, including overseeing whatever specific compliance and stakeholder response (or grievance) mechanisms have been put in place so that individuals

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and communities potentially affected by the project have access to effective mechanisms and procedures for raising concerns about the social and environmental performance of the project[7].

- Engage in the low value grant selection process where there is no Grant Selection Committee, as guided by the Low Value Grants – UNDP Operational Guide.

Additional responsibilities of the Project Board can include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Ensure coordination between the various donors and government-funded projects and programmes;
- Report to relevant inter-ministerial bodies or higher-level oversight bodies;
- Ensure coordination with multiple government agencies and their participation in project activities;
- Track and monitor co-financing for this project;
- Appraise the annual project implementation report, including the quality assessment rating report;
- Ensure commitment of human resources to support project implementation, arbitrating any issues within the project;
- Act as an informal consultation mechanism for stakeholders;
- Approve the Project Inception Report, Mid-term Review and Terminal Evaluation reports and corresponding management responses;
- Review the final project report package during an end-of-project review meeting to discuss lessons learned and opportunities for scaling up;
- Providing guidance or reporting protocols to technical committees or sub-bodies reporting to the Board (if applicable);

[7] The responsibilities of the board in this regard should follow UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards (SES) as codified in the PPM. It should be noted that while a project board can play a role in addressing or assisting with the compliance and stakeholder response (or grievance) mechanisms put in in place for a given project (as part of their quality assurance and oversight function), this will be in addition to and does not substitute for UNDP's core responsibility to ensure compliance with the SES throughout the project management cycle as part of UNDP's Programming Quality Assurance system.

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ANNEX 2: Management Positions TORs

i. Project Coordinator - 1

The Project Coordinator (PC) will report to the Resilience Analyst/Urban Planner for the LIDRE Project. S/he will be responsible for supporting implementation of the project and work under the overall quality assurance of the Portfolio Management Analyst (Resilience and Environment Portfolio). PC will also be focal point for maintaining communication and coordination with provincial and municipal officials, including the local partners and other key stakeholders engaged in the project. S/he will be responsible for overseeing implementation of the project across all 5 municipalities, both programmatic and financial, including management of the team that is comprised of Municipal Associates, Livelihood Officer.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Lead the development of appropriate working relations with national, provincial and local stakeholders to build their ownership on relevant aspects of the project.
- In collaboration with DRM Specialist, lead coordination with the UN Consortium partners on all aspects of the project during implementation of the project at all levels, adhering to the agreed implementation framework, including on financial and programmatic reporting.
- Ensure coordination with partner agencies during implementation of the activities, ensuring possible and knowledge and resource sharing.
- Ensure all activities are being planned, implemented and monitored in close coordination with the provincial and local governments and line agencies, including the target communities and key stakeholders and community of practices.
- Plan, implementation, management, and coordination aspects of the projects at provincial, district and municipal levels guiding the Provincial Coordinators and rest of the Provincial and Municipal teams.
- Provide oversight and regular updates, including preparation of approach papers for specific activities, quarterly work plans, action plans and calendar of events, in close coordination with the Admin and Finance, M&E, GESI focal person of CDRMP.
- Monitor regularly and ensure timely and adequate implementation of the project activities, undertake necessary preparatory actions for the planned activities, and liaise with relevant parties.
- Provide guidance in liaising with the all three tiers of stakeholders, preparation of the detailed workplan and adherence to action plans/ approaches developed for the project along with engagement of the project staff in community consultation processes.
- Formulate measures so that project approaches, monitoring system and reporting mainstreams the aspects of gender and social inclusion with adequate GESI sensitive data collection and tailored support.
- Lead the integration of GESI aspects in all stages of the project in coordination with GESI Focal Person of UNDP/ SUPER project and consortium members.

Qualifications:

- Master's Degree in Social Science, Disaster Risk Management, Agriculture or any other related fields.
- More than seven years of practical experience in working in development sector
- Experience of working in the area of Humanitarian Response including in urban contexts and good understanding of current DRR policies of the Government of Nepal and familiar with various initiatives at provincial and local levels through various stakeholders (ministries and local bodies)
- Demonstrated social skills of coordinating with different stakeholders and facilitating high level discussions and fostering cooperation amongst various stakeholders
- Experience of working in UN and international agencies will be preferable

ii. Admin and Finance Officer - 1

The Admin. And Finance Officer will work under the guidance of Project Manager, the key responsibilities of the Administration and Finance Officer include the following:

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Roles and Responsibilities:

- Lead the overall financial management of the project and its outputs;
- Maintain and upload the annual/ revise budget and CDRs in ATLAS along with other supporting documents;
- Prepare & review vouchers in ATLAS, obtain approval and process payments for all the financial transactions done at Project;
- Keep record of the disbursements made from UNDP CO and by cooperating agency on behalf of the Project;
- Manage ATLAS generated donor reports for donor reporting;
- Identify capacity gaps of Sub Recipients NGO's in Financial Management and provide guidance where necessary;
- Ensure compliance of all the provisions of DIM Guidelines regarding personnel management, procurement, subcontract and financial management;
- Support and facilitate the DIM audit, RPA and LVG audits as well as internal audit conducted by UNDP and follow up on measures to be taken based on the findings;
- Support the programme team in preparing and updating Annual Work Plan and Acceleration/Quarterly work plan of the project;
- Conduct periodic field monitoring visits to ensure the financial management system in place with the partner organizations/grantees;
- Ensure budgeting from GESI perspective.
- In accordance with the Work Plan arrange for procurement of equipment, supplies and services;
- Provide significant support in annual audit exercise and ensure that the action plan is implemented;
- Support the Project Manager in overseeing the contracts with implementing partners including governmental and non-governmental organizations as well as with service providers for the programme (individuals and companies);
- Support to organize Project Board Meetings; ensure documentation and timely dissemination of minutes to the concerned parties;
- Ensure all administrative, human resource and programme related materials are properly documented and archived for ease of access;
- Full compliance of UN rules and regulations, policies and strategies on travel management and ensure that vehicles are used in accordance with UN rules and regulations and that vehicle usage date is correctly recorded

Qualification:

- Bachelor's or Master's degree in management, Finance, Accounting, Administration or human resource management or any other relevant areas
- At least five years for Bachelor's degree or at least three years for Master's degree of relevant work experience in administration and finance;
- Knowledge of office management including account and financial management skills; and project management procedures that UNDP follows will be a strong asset;
- Experience on administration of projects and development programme.
- Operating knowledge of ATLAS would be an added advantage;
- Experience on working on respective field and working with local governments will be an asset.

iii. Communication and Outreach Officer - 1

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Communication of results and advocacy for enhanced municipal preparedness for urban and earthquake risks with focus on vulnerable population and enhancing risk governance for coordinated response from national to local level.
- Carry out strategic result communication of the project targeting public, the government, and donors through preparation of project specific strategic communication plan. The tasks include

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generating high-quality human-interest stories, press releases, case studies, good practices and advocacy documents, including policy briefs; designing infographics and other visual items for reporting based on the data collected through the project; and effectively utilize social media outlets in disseminating key project activities.

- Closely liaise with the UNDP Nepal country office communication unit for the contents of communication, while working independently for production of high-quality products.
- Ensure that the ECHO component of CDRMP/UNDP project website is up to date for public view.
- Maintain communication/coordination mechanism with the Provincial Coordinator as well as the national staffs and other provincial and municipal technical officers, for communication and outreach related work.
- Synchronize actions at field level between different actors within the components of this project.
- Establish and maintain contacts with print and electronic media nationally and locally in the area where the project activities are implemented.
- Lead in carrying out media (district/national) visits to the sites to document and report issues and good practices as an advocacy tool.
- Daily monitoring, review and record media coverage of the portfolio and circulate to relevant authorities.
- Wherever possible, analyze any gap in communication for the project beneficiaries and suggest the project team for potential improvement.
- Contribute in reviewing of translations, contacts with printers and other vendors to ensure timely and quality production of IEC materials and other resources.
- Provide logistical support to information campaigns along key events or international days.
- Maintain visual/audio archive of the project outcomes (photo, videography etc.).
- Liaise with project team, relevant government stakeholders and agency for the development of high-quality risk communication materials for the beneficiaries.
- Support the project management team in production of quality Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials and other communication resources for the beneficiaries
- Ensure project communication and outreach are maintained in line with project communication framework and various baseline and simulation
- Ensure that project approaches, communication, visibility and outreach mainstreams the aspects of gender and social inclusion with adequate GESI sensitive tailored support in communication.
- Support for documentation of project results and achievements and their dissemination in coordination with national project coordinator and senior project officers
- Guide and work with information and database officer to collect and comply, reports, data, news, events, human stories, challenges and lessons learnt to publish in periodic reports
- Support in integration of GESI aspects in all stages of the project in coordination with GESI Focal Person of UNDP-SUPER

Qualification:

- Bachelor's degree in communications, media studies, IT, journalism, international relations, international development or another related field.
- At least 4 years of relevant experience in strategic communication, content development or marketing in the development sector with proven skill in urban disaster preparedness and earthquake preparedness
- Experience of working with NDRRMA, MoFAGA (facilitation of technical working group) and local level for preparation of high-quality communication and knowledge products.
- Working experience of traditional and social media, digital marketing, multimedia (photography/videography) tools and a variety of other communication platforms.
- Preparation of lesson learned, knowledge products focusing on urban disaster preparedness initiatives including earthquake reconstruction and recovery.
- Demonstrated technical skills in preparation of disaster risk management/preparedness related IEC materials.

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- Demonstrated social skills of coordinating with different stakeholders and facilitating discussions including shared learning dialogues.
- Excellent skills on preparing high quality reports, human interest stories, case studies and other knowledge products.
- Working knowledge of graphic design and video editing tools like Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Canva, Premiere Pro or Final Cut Pro.

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UNDP Nepal Country Office

Project Document Review and Clearance Checklist

Project Title: Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the areas affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake (LIDRE)

Project Number: **01004107** **PIMS #:** NA

Planned Start Date (IP): 01 March 2025 **Planned End Date (IP):** 28 February 2026

LPAC meeting date: 18 February 2025 **Project Amount:** US$ 1,719,212

Donor(s): Government of Japan, United Nations Development Programme

UNDP Corporate Standard	Clearance [Yes, No, NA]			Remarks
	Yes	No	NA	
Review by Project Developer /Policy Adviser				
1. Project is included in UNITY and agreement created	X			
2. Use of latest Project Document Template available in POPP	X			
3. Stakeholder consultations conducted/lessons learnt from past incorporated including from relevant evaluations/ICPE	X			
4. Incorporate the concerns of relevant Government counterparts/stakeholders if relevant	X			
5. Shared with and incorporated the inputs/comments of Pre-PAC members	X			
6. Signed Pre-LPAC/LPAC minute attached	X			
7. Recommendations of the Pre-LPAC/LPAC incorporated	X			
8. Implementation Modality and Implementing Partner/Responsible Parties clearly specified	X			
9. Funding allocations and funding gaps, if any, clearly indicated and resource mobilization strategy explained	X			
The above documents are duly attached with the submission. Name & Signature of Project Developer/Policy Advisor: Pragyajan Yalamber Rai, Portfolio Manager, UNDP DocuSigned by: B801579101E84E7...				
Review by GESI Adviser				
1. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Analysis included in the section of Development challenges	X			It is recommended to ensure to develop and implement the Gender Action Plan as indicated in the document and also ensure regular monitoring accordingly.
2. GESI strategy is included in the Strategy section	X			
3. GESI Action Plan included for GEF/GCF project			X	
4. GESI responsive results, indicators and targets are included in the RRF	X			
5. Review and assigned the Gender Marker in collaboration with RBM Analyst	X			
6. GESI dimension rightly assessed in SESP	X			
7. PSEA related risk included in Risk Register if applicable	X			
The above checklists are fully complied with the submission. Name and Signature of the GESI Adviser: Geetanjali Rai, Interim GESI Analyst, UNDP DocuSigned by: 24B21A64115F4C5...				
Review by RBM Analyst				

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1. Use of latest ProDoc template available in POPP and all sections covered	X			
2. Cover page accurately reflects UNSDCF/CPD/RPD Outcomes and Outputs	X			
3. Signed Pre-LPAC/LPAC meeting minute available	X			Minutes should be signed by the LPAC members
4. All components of the Results and Resource Framework (RRF) completed	X			
5. At least one indicator from UNDP SP and CPD are included in the RRF	X			
6. M & E narrative section of the project document completed	X			
7. Evaluation plan with adequate budget included as well as reflected in project budget.	X			
8. Multi Year Work Plan in corporate template included	X			
9. Project Quality Assurance Report (Design stage) attached	X			
10. SESP screening and relevant assessments and management plans attached. All environmental/social risks from Risk Register are included in the SES	X			ESMF should be prepared before implementation of the project
11. UNDP Project Risk register included all the SES risks identified in SESP	X			
12. Project Theory of Change (diagram) annexed	X			Narrative of TOC is kept in the ProDoc. It is suggested to prepare and attach the TOC diagram in the Annex.
13. Project Board ToR annexed	X			
14. ToRs of key management positions annexed	X			
15. Project Communication Plan with budget annexed		X		Comms plan to be developed at the beginning of the project implementation.
The above checklists fully complied with the submission. Name and signature of the RBM Analyst: Dinesh Bista, Programming Quality and RBM Analyst, UNDP	DocuSigned by:  117B1515CC60489...			
Review by Operations Manager/Finance Analyst				
1. Cost sharing / donor agreement signed	X			
2. LOA for support services attached and ready for signature			X	
3. AWP and budget completed for all years for the total project budget	X			

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4. Procurement Plan attached			X	Procurement plan to be prepared once AWP is prepared.
5. HR Plan attached	X			
6. On-granting provision applicable to the IP			X	DIM Project
7. Capacity assessments: HACT micro assessment, PCAT, AML/CFT screening as per AML/CFT Policy for IP and RPs			X	UN-Habitat as RP

The above documents are duly attached with the submission.
Name and signature of Operations Manager/Finance Analyst:

Ananda Ale, Finance Analyst, UNDP DocuSigned by: 2D6B5D402C114D6...

Nibedan Baidya, Operations Manager, UNDP DocuSigned by: 528AAA8A3B0F4F4...

1. **Reviewed and recommended for Approval:**

DocuSigned by: 2B6D826A661446B...

Name: Julien Chevillard
Designation: Deputy Resident Representative

2. **Cleared and approved by:**

Signed by: Kyoko Yokosuka 31ECC0B558164AE...

Name: Kyoko Yokosuka
Designation: Resident Representative
Date: 26 March 2025

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United Nations Development Programme

PROJECT DOCUMENT

Nepal

Project Title: **Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the areas affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake (LIDRE)**
Project Number: 01004107
Implementing Partner: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Start Date: 01 March 2025 **End Date:** 28 February 2026 **PAC Meeting date:** 18 February 2025

Brief Description

Nepal, recognized as one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world, is extremely vulnerable to climate change and natural hazards, including earthquakes, storms, landslides, floods (including from glacier lake outbursts), forest fires and droughts, with nearly 80 per cent of the population directly exposed to these risks. Each year, hundreds of lives are lost and thousands of people are affected by climate induced disasters such as floods and landslides.

On 03 November 2023, a 6.4 magnitude earthquake struck Karnali Province, with the epicenter identified near Ramindanda of Jajarkot district. The initial earthquake, followed by at least 466 aftershocks, caused catastrophic damage resulting in a total of 154 deaths (70 males and 84 females) and 366 injuries, and at least 250,000 people directly affected. Out of 18 districts impacted by the earthquake, Jajarkot and West Rukum were most heavily impacted. The Provincial Emergency Operation Center of Karnali Province reported that 171 drinking water schemes, 17 irrigation schemes, 355 schools, 54 police stations, 42 public buildings, and five micro hydro schemes were fully or partially damaged. The earthquake impacted more than 62,000 private houses with significant damages to livelihoods, affecting cattle farming and beekeeping, and impacting agriculture production/storage and related infrastructure.

Through the project "Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the areas affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake (LIDRE)", UNDP will utilize its long-standing experience in supporting Nepal's disaster risk preparedness, response, and recovery to support early recovery and reconstruction in the areas most affected by the earthquake. The proposed interventions will not only support the communities to recover from the earthquake but also build capacities of the local governments to restore disrupted public services, enhance disaster preparedness and start long-term recovery and reconstruction. In close collaboration with the local governments and other ongoing initiatives in the area, the Project will contribute to: 1) strengthen governance capacity for delivery of basic services and enabling environment for long-term reconstruction and resilience; 2) promote community-led reconstruction of damaged small infrastructures for livelihoods opportunities, coupled with psychosocial support; and 3) strengthen capacities and mechanisms for emergency preparedness and response to enhance resilience against future disasters. The project will be implemented for 12 months in 2 districts namely Jajarkot and Rukum West and 5 local governments namely, Bheri, Nalgadh, Sanibheri, Athbiskot and Barekot of Karnali Province under the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) in partnership with UN-Habitat recognized as Responsible Party for the project.

Contributing Outcome (UNSDCF, CPD, RPD):
By 2027, more people, especially women, youth, and the most marginalised 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.

Indicative Output(s) with gender marker:
Output 1: Local and district level governance in earthquake-affected areas strengthened to ensure continuity of basic service delivery, support long-term reconstruction, and enhance disaster preparedness – GEN2
Output 2: Earthquake-affected community resilience enhanced in selected districts and local governments – GEN2

Total resources required:		USD 1,719,212
Total resources allocated:		
	Government of Japan:	USD 1,639,212[1]
	UNDP:	USD 80,000
Unfunded:		N/A

Agreed by:

UNDP
Kyoko Yokosuka, Resident Representative
Date: 17 March 2025

[1] Excludes 1% coordination levy of US$ 16,392.12

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I. DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

Nepal is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world. It is extremely vulnerable to climate change and natural hazards, including earthquakes, storms, landslides, floods (including from glacier lake outbursts), forest fires and droughts, with nearly 80 per cent of the population directly exposed to these risks. Each year, hundreds of lives are lost in water induced disasters such as floods and landslides and thousands of people are affected. Being one of the most seismically active regions in the world, the risk of a major earthquake always looms large. The dynamics of climate change add another dimension to disaster risk in Nepal. The impacts of climate change are projected to have serious consequences on Nepal's economy and the livelihoods of poor and vulnerable people, who are occupying marginal lands prone to hydrometeorological hazards and lack adequate capacity to respond to risks.

Karnali, one of the seven provinces of Nepal with the second lowest Human Development Index, is prone to several hazards including earthquakes, floods, landslides, droughts, and forest fires. Vulnerability factors, such as harsh climatic conditions and fragile terrain, limited infrastructure, scarce health facilities, and chronic issues such as poverty and malnutrition combined with hazards has led to high risks, with climate change further exasperating these existing risks.

On 03 November 2023, a 6.4 magnitude earthquake struck Karnali Province, with the epicenter identified near Ramindanda of Jajarkot district. The initial earthquake, which was followed by at least 466 aftershocks, caused catastrophic damage. This is among the largest earthquakes to impact Nepal since the 7.8 and 7.3 magnitude earthquakes in April and May 2015. The impact was felt across 13 districts of Karnali, Sudurpashchim, and Lumbini Provinces according to the National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC)[2]. The earthquake and aftershocks caused catastrophic devastation, resulting in a total of 154 deaths (70 males and 84 females) and 366 injuries, and at least 250,000 people directly affected. Jajarkot and Rukum West in Karnali Province were the two districts most heavily impacted by the earthquake and its aftershocks.

The Provincial Emergency Operation Center of Karnali Province reported that 171 drinking water schemes, 17 irrigation schemes, 355 schools, 54 police stations, 42 public buildings, and five micro hydro schemes were either fully or partially damaged in 18 local governments. More than 62,000 private houses have been impacted. The earthquake caused significant damages to livelihoods, affecting cattle farming and beekeeping, and impacting agriculture production/storage and other related infrastructure. Agriculture is the main source of livelihood of the earthquake affected districts, followed by remittances. According to the 2021 census, 81.6% and 75.9% of the population, above 10 years, in Jajarkot and Rukum West districts respectively were engaged in agriculture in the last 12 months preceding the census, reflecting the high dependency.

The Government of Nepal, together with development and humanitarian partners, responded to the earthquake by undertaking response and relief activities in the initial days. The Cluster Mechanism led by the government and co-led by development partners were activated. After initial response and relief, the shift towards recovery and reconstruction is currently underway. The Humanitarian Country Team prepared the Joint Recovery Action Plan (JRAP) with the aim to support to 250,000 people with an estimated total budget of USD 96 million and some of the components of JRAP has been implemented UNDP is the co-lead of the Early Recovery Cluster at federal and provincial levels and the cluster was activated in the aftermath of the earthquake. Together with the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA), UNDP co-led the development of the Early Recovery components of the Joint Recovery Action Plan and priority activities were endorsed in the meeting of the Early Recovery Cluster on 1 April 2024. The government has made a provision of 50,000 NRs to each affected household for construction of temporary

[2] https://dpnet.org.np/uploads/files/Jajarkot%20EQ%20Analysis%20Report_compressed%202024-03-08%2014-12-58.pdf

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shelter. On 26 February 2024, the Government of Nepal decided to declare the earthquake affected areas as disaster/emergency. The government has recently finalized the recovery and reconstruction action plan which is being rolled out and implemented.

In the earthquake affected areas, several district and local government offices are providing basic service delivery from tents, containers and damaged office buildings, which hampers effective delivery of basic services to the population. Pending to implementation of government's long-term recovery and reconstruction action plan, the reconstruction of damaged / destroyed government buildings will need some time. Office equipment was also damaged during the earthquake and there is a need for replacements and upgrades. Further, there is a need for construction of temporary structures such as prefabs for government buildings along with office equipment to enable effective service delivery.

Consultations with communities and government has highlighted the need for livelihoods support as livelihoods assets belonging to women and the marginalized groups such as occupational caste groups and people living with disabilities were significantly affected. Provision of short- and medium-term livelihoods interventions will help the affected communities and groups to bounce back. Early provision of cash for work for debris management was well received by the communities and requests for additional support for income generation have been expressed. The earthquake-affected local governments are also prone to climate hazards such as floods, landslides, and drought/water scarcity, and there is an urgent need to strengthen disaster preparedness and response for long-term resilience building.

II. STRATEGY

Building on the past early recovery and disaster preparedness support by UNDP, the Project is primarily focused on supporting for livelihoods recovery of the communities affected by the earthquake and enhancing risk mitigation and disaster preparedness to avert future disaster risks. While doing so, the Project's support will be crucial to meet the current gaps in delivery of public and livelihoods services disrupted by the earthquake and support for transitioning to long-term recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation programme of the government, which is expected to start soon. The NDRRMA has recently completed assessment of post-disaster recovery needs; finalized the post-disaster recovery framework and approved the post disaster recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation guidelines, which form strong foundation for reconstruction and rehabilitation work to start. The proposed interventions will help the communities recover from the earthquake impact in immediate term, build capacities of the local governments to respond to future disaster risks and facilitate smooth implementation of reconstruction in medium and long-term. UNDP's on-going support to NDRRMA to prepare recovery and reconstruction action plan and guidelines, conducting detail damage assessment and the past experience of inclusive and owner-driven reconstruction in the aftermath of the Gorkha earthquake, will build necessary ground for the government to start reconstruction of permanent houses and institute long-term recovery measures. UNDP's support under the Project will enable the local governments to take ownership of recovery and reconstruction and strengthen their capacities to coordinate, implement and monitor the long-term reconstruction.

UNDP will leverage its knowledge and extensive experience gained from past and on-going projects in Karnali province and in other parts of the country related to livelihoods recovery, community infrastructure development, and strengthening capacities of the local governments for disaster preparedness and long-term recovery and reconstruction during implementation of the Project. Further UNDP as co-lead of the Early Recovery Cluster at federal level and at province levels including in Karnali and having been substantively

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engaged in the post-Gorkha Earthquake recovery and reconstruction, will play an important role in transitioning from early recovery actions to long-term recovery and reconstruction led by the local governments. Following specific experiences gained by UNDP will contribute to the project goal: ***effective earthquake recovery and long-term resilience, by enhancing government capacity for service delivery, support reconstruction, and promote revitalized livelihoods.***

a) 2017-2021: construction more than 46,200 resilient houses and development of inclusive recovery policy post-Gorkha earthquake recovery and reconstruction – supported by Social Technical Facilitation Support Project, funded by the Government of India.

b) 2024: construction 7 prefab structures for the local governments and district offices in Jajarkot and Rukum West post-2023-Jajarkot earthquake – supported by Strengthening Urban Preparedness and Earthquake Response (SUPER) project, funded by UNDP. ECHO.

c) 2022-2024: strengthened capacities of 5 municipalities and 3 provinces including Karnali for disaster preparedness and risk governance through preparation of disaster/earthquake preparedness plans, effective coordination, emergency planning and information management – supported by Strengthening Urban Preparedness and Earthquake Response (SUPER) project, funded by

d) 2020-2024: built community infrastructure including 10 schemes of irrigation canals and common facility centers in east Nepal – supported by Developing Climate Resilient Livelihoods in the Vulnerable Watershed in Nepal (DCRL) Project, funded by GEF/LDCF

e) 2024: built 5 irrigation facilities and agriculture processing centers 5 in Karnali province – supported by Renewable Energy for Resilient Agriculture Systems (RERAS) project, funded by Government of Norway

f) 2022-2023: implementing Local Infrastructure Support Programme pilot in 15 LGs of Karnali Province including construction of over 90 community infrastructure including improvement of rural road, water supply and drainage and building irrigation canal, warehouse/cold store, and community buildings – supported by Local Infrastructure Support Programme, funded by UNDP

g) 2023-2024: building capacities of the communities and Barekot rural and Nalgadh municipalities of Jajarkot district to build resilient livelihoods through construction of 3 green infrastructure for disaster risk mitigation , 196 green jobs creation, 500 households supported through climate smart agriculture, 1100 households supported through clean cooking stoves, 750 solar home system and installed 4 hydro-met stations for strengthening; EWS - supported by 'Enhancing Human Security Through Local Climate Action' project, funded by the Government of Japan.

Theory of Change

Following Theory of Change (ToC) is envisioned to achieve the project overarching goal of "***effective earthquake recovery and long-term resilience, by enhancing government capacity for service delivery, support reconstruction, and promote revitalized livelihoods"***

"If the damaged government buildings are immediately replaced by prefab structures and equipment; and risk governance of the municipalities strengthened, then the disrupted public services will be restored and transition towards long long-term recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation will be smooth".

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"If the critical community infrastructure damaged by the earthquake are immediately rebuilt, then the livelihood services of the poor, women and vulnerable community lost by the earthquake will be restored, and new livelihood opportunities will be created".
"If the capacities of the local governments and community to respond to disasters are increased through improved disaster preparedness and emergency response, the community will be able to reduce the loss from future disasters and enhance long-term resilience to risks".

To realize this a range of synchronized interventions are proposed under the Project which includes : i) restoration of public services disrupted by the earthquake through construction of pre-fab structures at local and district levels and upgrading/replacement of damaged office equipment contributing to **Specific Objective 1:** ***To enhance capacities of earthquake-affected local governments for effective basic service delivery, reconstruction, and long-term resilience;*** ii) building critical community infrastructures needing repair and reconstruction such as watermills, irrigation canals, common facility centres for tailoring and iron smiths, solar-powered cold storage, beehive and tailoring equipment, and training to community members contributing to **Specific Objective 2:** ***To strengthen sustainable and resilient livelihoods of earthquake affected people and communities;*** and iii) strengthening emergency preparedness and response capacities and mechanisms through simulations, search and rescue equipment, coordination, information management and SOPs; and updating risk management plans and awareness generation contributing to **Specific Objective 3: To enhance capacity of local governments on emergency preparedness and response through improved plans/procedures, response equipment and response facilities.**

Given a short duration of 12 months implementation and it builds on immediate recovery needs of the community and the local governments, high ownership of the project results by the community and local governments is expected. As the project approaches will be guided by lessons learnt and experiences gained from other similar projects and initiatives, project implementation is expected to be very smooth and on-time without any disruptions, except the unpredicted impacts from new earthquake and climatic disasters.

Contribution to the global and national development frameworks

The Project is in-line with UNDP's Strategic Plan (2022-2025) to support in building resilience through enhance of institutional capacity at Local Level and communities to respond to systematic uncertainty and risk. The Project's specifically supports the 'Resilience' signature solution that prioritizes risk-informed planning, gender-responsive policy and interventions and enhancing capacities of local governments on disaster risk management. The project will contribute to the following SP Output and indicators are provided below;

- *3.1 Institutional systems to manage multi-dimensional risks and shocks strengthened at regional, national and sub-national levels*
    - *3.1.1 Number of risk-informed development strategies and plans in place at regional, national and provincial level*
- *3.3 Risk informed and gender-responsive recovery solutions, including stabilization efforts and mine action, implemented at regional, national and sub-national levels*
    - *3.3.3 Number of institutions with gender-responsive resilient recovery strategies or plans in crisis and post-crisis settings, including stabilization and mine action, informed by joint assessments*

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The action contributes to United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023-2027, priority area 3 prioritizes environmental sustainability, climate, and disaster resilience and directly responds to the following key Output indicators of Outcome 3;

Output 3.1. Innovative resilience-building solutions introduced at all levels to reduce risks from disasters and climate change

3.1.2. Number of local governments implementing electronic building permit systems, climate friendly, resilient (infrastructure) guidelines and (health) waste management initiatives (IRRF-3.1.1)
Baseline (2021): 17 | Targets (2027): 34

Output 3.2: Risk informed and gender-responsive recovery solutions, including stabilization efforts and mine action, implemented at regional, national and sub-national levels

3.2.3. Number of federal, provincial and local governments integrating climate-change adaptation responding to gender equality and social inclusion in plans based on NPC mainstreaming guideline (2019) (IRRF-4.2.1) Baseline (2022): 280 | Target (2027): 424

The Project address the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 2015-2030 directly with SDG targets 11, 16, as well 5, 10. 16 and 17. The project also aligns with the objectives of the Commission of Status of Women 66 (2022) and United Nations Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) 2007. f

III. RESULTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Expected Results

The overarching goal of the Project is to support effective earthquake recovery and long-term resilience, by enhancing government capacity for service delivery, support reconstruction, and promote revitalized livelihoods.

The specific objectives to achieve the overarching goals are:

- To enhance capacities of earthquake-affected local governments for effective basic service delivery, reconstruction, and long-term resilience;
- To strengthen sustainable and resilient livelihoods of earthquake affected people and communities; and
- To enhance capacity of local governments on emergency preparedness and response through improved plans/procedures, response equipment and response facilities.

Key output results and interventions will include:

Output 1: Local and district level governance in earthquake-affected areas strengthened to ensure continuity of basic service delivery, support long-term reconstruction, and enhance disaster preparedness

Activity result 1.1: Governance capacity for delivery of basic services and enabling environment for long-term reconstruction and resilience

This will include assessment of priority needs to create facilities, social and environmental screening of sites for setting up prefabs, construction of prefab structure facilities at local and district levels and replacement and upgrading of damaged office equipment. Based on initial discussion with the municipalities and UNDP's visits to the earthquake affected areas, the list for construction of prefab facilities includes the police station

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in Ward Office-1 in Bheri Municipality; Agriculture office, health and Ayurvedic department in Nalgad Municipality; Jadibudi building, and primary health posts in Barekot Municipality; health posts in Aathbiskot Municipality; police station and health posts in Sanibheri Municipality. The final selection of facilities for prefab support will be based on field verification by UNDP in consultation with the local governments. These priortites have also been identified in the Joint Recovery Action Plan, Western Nepal Earthquake, Nepal and the public building damage assessment of Nalagad and Barekot rural municipalities, conducted by UNDP through a technical agency. The office equipment support includes computers, printers, office furniture and communication equipment.

Activity Result 1.2: Community-led reconstruction of damaged small infrastructures for livelihoods opportunities, coupled with psychosocial support

This will include repair and reconstruction of watermills, irrigation canals, common facility centres for tailoring and iron smiths, establishment of solar-powered cold storage, beehive and tailoring equipment, and training to community members. The beehive promotion is important in these high-altitude areas as honey produced is of high quality due to altitude and vegetation. This will support the existing income of vulnerable communities, thus help in building economic resilience. In the targeted areas, some of the communities are aware of the know-how of bee keeping, thus it helps in sustainability of the intervention. Through the Japan Supplementary Budget (JSB) supported by the Government of Japan, 50 people were already supported through beehives and this Project will help to reach additional earthquake-affected population in need.

The Common Facility Centres (CFC) for blacksmiths, tailoring, etc. are important as communities are currently working individually, often using space in their houses. The common facilities will help in bringing the people engaged in similar activities below one shed, thus create better economic opportunities. In addition, as houses were damaged/destroyed this impacted their workplace, and common facilities will help in reviving their livelihoods. The reconstructed irrigation canals will ensure regular supply of water to agricultural lands. The rehabilitated improved water mills will ensure income generation and minimize the drudgery of women. The project will assist in formation of users' group for the reconstruction of infrastructure, establishment of operation and maintenance (O&M) fund of the infrastructure, formulation of procedures for O&M and set a practice of tariff collection for the services utilized from the infrastructure. The solar-powered cold storage will help in storing the agriculture produce, thus facilitate in improving access to urban markets in for example Nepalganj or Birendranagar at appropriate times. At the moment, the quality of power supply is not reliable, hence solar-powered cold storage is important.

Psychosocial support to earthquake affected people will be also provided to 400 affected people. The issue of psychosocial support has been raised by the local governments during consultations including the consultation with Nalgad Municipality and communities. The issue of psychosocial support to communities, including children, is important as some of the communities have highlighted post-earthquake trauma/psychosocial impact.

Output 2: Earthquake-affected community resilience enhanced in selected districts and local governments
Activity results 2.1: Strengthen capacities and mechanisms for emergency preparedness and response (EPR) to enhance resilience against future disasters:

This will include development of EPR capacities and mechanisms, and response procedures for local governments, search and rescue equipment, creating facilities for emergency response, testing and updating of local plans and awareness generation on do's and don'ts related to disasters. The EPR testing will include simulation exercises, and learning will inform the updating of plans. The learning from 'Enhancing human

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security through local climate action' implemented by UNDP in two palikas of Jajarkot (Nalgadh and Barekot) will be further consolidated and replicated in other palikas to build resilience to both climatic and non-climatic risks.

Resources Required to Achieve the Expected Results

UNDP CO will mobilise technical and operation support to provide quality assurance and smooth implementation of the project. UNDP will recruit/engage the following project team members to execute the project: 1 Risk Management Specialist (part-time, 8 months); 1 Resilience Analyst/Urban Planner (full-time, 12 months); 1 Project Associate (IUNV, full-time, 12 months); 1 Communication/Data Management Officer (50% time, 12 months); 1 Finance Officer (50% time, 12 months); 1 Driver (full-time, 12 months); 5 Municipal Associates (full-time, 12 months).

Additional personnel, external technical experts and specialists based on needs at provincial and local levels who will provide necessary backstopping support in respective areas, such as the baseline survey, design and conduct of the simulation exercises, design and implementation of risk mitigation measures among others. Additionally, local partners to support implementation of ground level activities may also be considered depending on the needs.

Table 1: Resources Required for the Expected Results

S.No	Budget Head	Description	Total
1.	**Service Contract - Individual**	Project HR Costs and Information Management Support for EOCs	212,420
2.	**Consultancy Service - Firm**	Consultancy firm cost for activities on 10 pre-fab structures, 9 CFC facilities and small community infrastructure construction implemented by UN-HABITAT	615,000
3.	**Consultancy Service - Firm**	Consultancy firm cost for equipment support, update 5 EPR plans, strengthen capacity of municipalities, construction of 2 cold storage and support for bee-hive installation	477,768
4.	**Trainings /Meetings/ Workshop**	Includes cost to enhance capacity of national and sub-national governments and vulnerable communities as well as coordination events during implementation.	70,000
5.	**Travel**	Travel cost for events during the project implementation.	24,500
6.	**Publication**	Development, publication and dissemination of IEC materials of the project	35,000
7.	**Equipment & Furnitures**	Procurement of office equipment and goods for project management unit and field offices	13,650
8.	**Communication**	Communication cost at the field and project office	4,505
9.	**Operational Cost** – *Building Rent /Repair & Maintenance, Supplies, Over Head, Misc etc.*	Operational cost at the provinces, municipalities and national office	26,622
10.	**Vehicle**	One SUV 4 WD vehicle	40,000
11.	**IT Equipment**	Laptops-5; UPS-5; printer-2	8,000
12.	**IT Support Services**	IT services for the staff	6,448

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13.	**Audit Cost**	Professional Services (Audit)/Micro-assessment	5500
14.	**Delivery Enabling Services to Projects**	Technical Project service cost incurred for services directed to the project.	58,377
15.	**General Management Cost**	GMS 8%	121,423
	TOTAL Resources		1,719,212

Partnerships

The overall Jajarkot Earthquake response and recovery interventions are being led by the Government of Nepal, with support from development partners. Following the response and relief, the Government of Nepal has provided Nepali Rupees (NPR) 50,000 (approx. USD 376) to build temporary shelter to each household, whose house was affected. The government has finalized post-disaster recovery framework and action plan and approved the post disaster recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation guidelines. The Project will ensure close coordination with the Government of Nepal, including NDRRMA, the Karnali provincial government, and affected local governments and districts to align implementation with local priorities and needs.

The Government of Nepal estimated the cost of overall recovery and reconstruction of Jajarkot earthquake, Doti earthquake and Bajhang earthquake to the tune of USD 518 million, of which USD 361 million is estimated for the Jajarkot earthquake recovery and reconstruction. In order to support recovery, the Humanitarian Country Team, Nepal prepared the Joint Recovery Action Plan (JRAP) to complement the ongoing Government of Nepal's effort with a targeted funding of USD 96 million and to assist 250,000 individuals across various clusters. Out of the total funding need, in 2024, UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), provided GBP 13 million (equivalent to USD 16.2 million) to implement activities by four UN agencies – IOM, UNFPA, UNICEF, and WFP – under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office. The support was provided related to water sanitation and hygiene (WASH), nutrition, protection, shelter, and food security needs of approximately 50 thousand earthquake-affected people throughout 2024. The Project will engage with the four UN agencies to learn from their experiences, and ensure any lessons learned are incorporated in Project implementation.

Risks and Assumptions

With a very strict timeline of 12 month of implementation, the Project does not expect high implementation risks due to change in policies and priorities and regulatory or institutional environment of the project. Further since the project interventions directly address the immediate recovery needs of the community and builds on successful examples, selection of beneficiary and choice of interventions are community-led under the supervision of the local government, high level of local ownership is expected. In order to build that ownership, the Project will collaborate directly with the targeted households and the community affected by the earthquake and the 5 local governments, who will be involved in making choice of infrastructure and livelihoods support. The local governments will benefit from capacity building for disaster preparedness to avoid future risks and long-term recovery and reconstruction. The project does not intend to collaborate with the third party or private sector as implementing partner or responsible party of the project but rather engage as service provider without any promise to retain proprietary business secrets and intellectual property rights. The community and the municipality will be pre-informed about engagement with private sector with the scope of work and deliverables. At community level, selection of project beneficiary will be done through community consultation under close guidance of the municipality following the impact data maintained by the municipality.

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The project will use tested models of early recovery support, building community infrastructure and livelihood, and strengthening capacity for effective disaster preparedness and response, which were proven successful in similar contexts, and will have higher chances of success. The recent support provided by UNDP between 2023-2024 through "Enhancing human security through local climate action" project to 2 municipalities (Nalgadh and Barekot) out of 5 project municipalities in two districts (Jajarkot and Sanibheri), has created strong ownership at the local level for deepening risk governance and avoiding future risks through robust preparedness. Considering the engagement of similar nature, it is expected that there will be high appreciation and buy-in of the Project approach by the community and the government at local and district levels. As the project approach is built on past experiences and is in consistent with the government's recent policies for long term recovery and reconstruction and post-disaster recovery plan (PDRP), project implementation is expected to be smooth without any conflict with existing practices and regulatory mechanisms.

However, given the project area is prone to earthquake and climatic disasters, and the local governments are still passing through transition following environmental and operational risks are foreseen during project implementation:

- *A massive earthquake requiring humanitarian response and recovery support for a longer duration requiring engagement of whole federal and local government.*
- *Intense monsoon lasting several weeks and months, thus restricting access to project sites for several weeks and months.*
- *A major flood and landslide affecting project areas requiring response and relief interventions and require significant engagement of local government.*
- *Vulnerable groups including women and Persons with disabilities have limited access to project benefits*
- *A pandemic wave may result in federal / provincial / local governments imposing lockdowns with shift in priority of the federal and municipal level government and lockdowns.*
- *High turnover of local government staff.*

Assumptions:

Political instability and change government at federal level will have limited impact on local government but impact on provincial government cannot be disagreed. However, it is assumed that process of detailed damage assessment of the earthquake-affected houses started by NDRRMA and the Post Disaster Recovery Framework (PDRP) finalized by the Federal government, which reflects government's resource commitments and priorities does not change

Mitigation Measures:

- In case of a major earthquake requiring humanitarian response and recovery, consultation with government and the Embassy of Japan in Nepal, will be done to reprioritize activities without diluting the key focus of the project. The lessons from the Jajarkot earthquake of 2023 in the project area and the September 2024 floods will be useful for managing the action in case a major disaster hit.
- The project will include gender empowerment, disability and social inclusion as a key criterion in activity design and selection of beneficiaries. The structures such as prefabs and community facility centers will have features for easy access to persons with disabilities. The list of beneficiaries will have gender, age and disability segregated data to track progress.
- The intense monsoon duration is around July-September and project activities will be scheduled considering the restricted access to the project areas during this period. In case of major floods and

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landslides, the project interventions will be reassessed with the federal and local government and with advice from the Embassy of Japan in Nepal the activities will be adjusted in terms of activities and geographical areas, if necessary. The lessons from the implementation of the Enhancing human security through local climate action project supported by the Government of Japan will be used as the Jajarkot earthquake's epicentre was one of the local governments of the project.

- The project team based on the ground will provide regular update on any political changes happening at the province or local government level due to change in political landscape at federal level.
- The long-term engagement with local government as well as presence of the project team at local government will help in moving project activities despite the turnover of government officials. The monthly meeting of project team will include the the Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the areas affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake (LIDRE) assessment as one of the agenda and will identify contingency measures to mitigate it. UNDP will also work with local governments, concerned province and federal-level ministries to address the risks related to staff turnover, non-prioritization or low prioritization of project activities by local governments.

Stakeholder Engagement

The major stakeholders of the Project are the district-level and local governments, communities engaged in informal sectors such as wholesale and trade, farming, and people directly and indirectly affected by the Jajarkot earthquake seeking municipal services for reconstruction and rehabilitation. Throughout implementation, the Project will ensure close coordination and consultation with affected communities and people, ensuring their specific needs are prioritized. Close stakeholder engagement, with the local governments and communities, and the affected people, will be facilitated through UNDP's existing work in the affected areas through multiple initiatives. The project is expected to directly benefit 9,100 people and 149,495 people indirectly.

The project will prioritize addressing specific needs of the women, people living with disability and the people belonging to a particular occupational class such as ironsmith and tailoring, etc who had to discontinue their occupation due to earthquake impacts. The project strategies will ensure that the choice of community infrastructure and provision for livelihood support through skill training, equipment, common facility centers, and beekeeping are based on the specific needs of these people and groups in all targeted municipalities. To ensure any adverse impacts of project activities, the project will conduct social and environmental safeguard screening to identify risks, prepare and implement risk mitigation plan, and monitor the progress of implementation. UNDP will ensure organizing regular meeting with the affected community to ensure that their specific concerns are heard and addressed during implementation.

South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSC/TrC)

The Project will explore opportunities to engage Japanese expertise related to earthquake response and recovery through international volunteers, NGOs and private sector. Further partnership with Japanese institutions will be explored during implementation in coordination with the Embassy of Japan Nepal, for greater synergy and support in implementation. Opportunities for exchange of knowledge and technology with specialised international private companies and research institutions will be explored during implementation.

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Gender and Social Inclusion

The project aims at helping communities recovering after the Jajarkot earthquake and will specifically target women and the most vulnerable households, including marginalized groups, throughout its activities. The project municipalities are dominated by Khas Khestri's (40%) along with dominant population of Bishwokarma (23%), Thakuri (14%), Magar (14%), Pariyar (3%) and Hill Brahmin (3%) as well as scattered population of Mijar, Sanyasi, Gurungs, Kumal, Badi and Newa. The women population is at 51% i.e. 76,086 of the total population along with presence of 5,977 persons with disabilities.[3] The populations are found to be economically active with most engaged in the agriculture sector.

The project is based on the needs assessment at the provincial and municipal levels that has put special emphasis on assessing the specific needs of especially vulnerable and marginalized groups, including youth, women, persons with disabilities, Dalits and other marginalized people. The construction of prefab structures is aimed for operationalization and access to basic services (police stations, health posts, agriculture office, health department) that was impeded by the earthquake. This is particularly important in respecting the rights of the people especially following a serious natural disaster (i.e. Jajarkot Earthquake and its disastrous impact on the livelihoods and structures of the people) - the earlier and more effective these services are restored through provisions of alternative buildings for the service providers, the more the rights of the people will be respected and lives saved. In addition, the community-led reconstruction of damaged small infrastructures such as watermills, irrigation canals, common facility centers, cold storage, which will both restore access to crucial infrastructure for livelihoods and economic resilience and support the existing income of vulnerable communities through community employment. The project also provisions for psychosocial support to affected communities including children, which will help tackle the post-earthquake trauma.

During the inception period, an initial Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI) analysis will be prepared for the Project that takes stock of the needs of women, youths, socially excluded groups and persons with disabilities through a rapid assessment processes. The project will initiate a through GESI analysis and apply GESI lens in the design and execution of all activities as well as preparation of action monitoring framework to ensure meaningful participation in project interventions and decision-making process. The project will also ensure close engagement with local communities and a wide range of beneficiaries to inform design and implementation of activities, thus further contributing to a GESI-responsive and locally adapted and relevant approach. The project will prepare and mainstream a Gender Action Plan (GAP) that shall include provisions for prioritized employment for women, offer equal wages with men and women-friendly working environment (e.g. provisions for room for lactating mothers etc.), with trained human resource provisions to assure safe working environment free from harassment and Gender-based Violence (GBV).

Digital Solutions

The project will share with the community and the local governments, the experience of implementing similar initiatives outside the project area supported by UNDP through digital platforms. Particularly experience on construction of community infrastructures, setting-up of pre-fab structures, EWS and capacity building for disaster preparedness, and measures adopted to sustain those structures and mechanism in the long-run will be important for this project. The platform can also be used for live discussions between the communities and the local governments.

3 https://censusnepal.cbs.gov.np/results/population?province=6

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Knowledge

UNDP will ensure that the support provided by the the Government of Japan is fully visibly and duly acknowledged. A communication and visibility plan will be developed at the project inception phase and will be shared with the Embassy. The project results will be disseminated widely as per the communication plan while ensuring visibility of the collaborating partners and the Government of Japan. It will include Op-eds, press releases, human interest stories, and photo stories. Japan's logo will be placed on supplies and other visibility materials including banners and t-shirts, to ensure that end beneficiaries are aware of the generous contribution of the Government of Japan. UNDP will use its social media platforms (Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter) to disseminate information on the impact of this partnership. Ensuring visibility of the Government and the people of Japan will be a key focus throughout implementation of the project both on programmatic fronts as well in knowledge and visibility products. The project will document the lessons learnt from implementation and produce 'lessons learnt' documentation.

Sustainability and Scaling Up

The Project will work in close partnership with GoN and its structures at federal, provincial, and local level, as well as district level which is critical for disaster response. UNDP will continue to maintain regular dialogue and align implementation strategy with relevant entities including NDRRMA, MoFAGA, provincial ministries, and local government, among others. The Project will actively involve elected members and relevant officials from the affected municipalities.

The Project will actively collaborate with existing development programs at the municipal, district, and provincial levels, ensuring a strategic alignment that prevents duplication and enhances synergy for effective earthquake recovery and long-term resilience.

IV. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Cost Efficiency and Effectiveness

Project Management

The project will be directly implemented under UNDP's direct implementation modality (DIM) in collaboration with the project local municipalities and districts, as well as provincial and federal government agencies. UNDP will partner with UN-Habitat Programme Office in Nepal as Responsible Party of the project to support in implementation of infrastructure related work that will include establishment of 10 prefab structures (Output 1), 24 community infrastructure and 9 community facility centers (Output 2). Partnership with UN-Habitat will be formalized through an UN-UN agreement signed between the two based on defined scope of work and agreed modality of implementation, fund management and reporting. The project will work closely with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) under the Ministry of Home Affairs, and the Karnali provincial government. The project will leverage UNDP's ongoing engagement with the Barekot rural municipality and the Nalgad municipality supported by the Government of Japan (Japan Supplementary Budget). It will also leverage the relief and early recovery interventions UNDP undertook in Karnali province, following the Jajarkot earthquake. The project will ensure the principle of Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) is thoroughly integrated in activities and specifically target women and the most vulnerable households including marginalized groups as the main beneficiaries of the project.

UNDP will set up a project team led by the Resilience Analyst/Urban Planner under the technical guidance the Disastrer Risk Management Specialist of the SUPER2 project to implement the project activities on the ground and provide technical assistance to local government and implementing partners. The Resilience

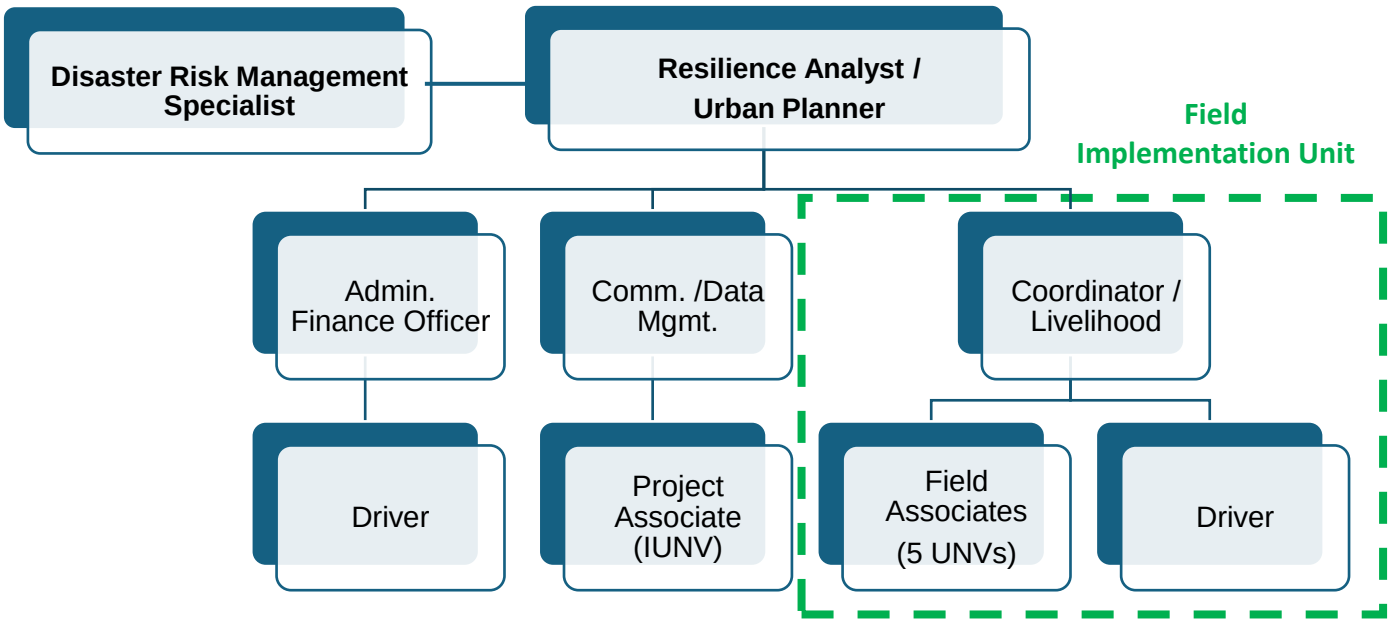
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Analyst/Urban Planner will be supported by Admin. Finance Officer, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Comms. & Data Management Officer and a Project Associate. The Disaster Risk Management Specialist will provide technical guidance to the construction activities to ensure quality of delivery. UNDP will ensure quality of project results, procurement of goods and services from domestic and international suppliers as per standard rules and regulations, conduct regular on-site monitoring through its Field Office and ensure coordination with local governments and other partners. As far as possible UNDP will mobilize national youth volunteers to support data collection and field implementation through the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme. It will explore opportunity to engage Japanese expertise through international volunteer, NGOs and private sector. Further partnership with Japanese institutions will be explored during implementation in coordination with the Embassy of Japan Nepal, for greater synergy and support in implementation. Opportunities for exchange of knowledge and technology with specialised international private companies and research institutions will be explored during implementation.

Field Implementation Unit

The Field Implement Unit will be setup to coordinate with the five project municipalities to provide implement support and oversight. The Field Unit will be managed by Field Coordinator/Engineer and supported by Livelihood/Agriculture expert while municipal associates will remain attached with each of the the municipalities and support in implementation on day-to-day.

Figure 1: Project Staff Structure



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V. RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Intended Outcome as stated in the UNSDCF/Country Programme Results and Resource Framework:
UNSDCF / UNDP Nepal CPD, Outcome 3: By 2027, more people, especially women, youth, and the most marginalised 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.
UNDP Nepal CPD, Output 3.1: Innovative resilience-building solutions introduced at all levels to reduce risks from disasters and climate change.
UNDP Nepal CPD, Output 3.2: Risk informed and gender-responsive recovery solutions, including stabilization efforts and mine action, implemented at regional, national and sub-national levels

Outcome indicators as stated in the Country Programme [or Regional] Results and Resources Framework, including baseline and targets:
3.1.2. Number of local governments implementing electronic building permit systems, climate friendly, resilient (infrastructure) guidelines and (health) waste management initiatives (IRRF-3.1.1) Baseline (2021): 17 | Targets (2027): 34
3.2.3. Number of federal, provincial and local governments integrating climate-change adaptation responding to gender equality and social inclusion in plans based on NPC mainstreaming guideline (2019) (IRRF-4.2.1) Baseline (2022): 280 | Target (2027): 424

Applicable Output(s) from the UNDP Strategic Plan:
3.1 Institutional systems to manage multi-dimensional risks and shocks strengthened at regional, national and sub-national levels
3.3 Risk informed and gender-responsive recovery solutions, including stabilization efforts and mine action, implemented at regional, national and sub-national levels

Project title and Quantum Project Number: Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the Areas Affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake
Quantum ID: 01004107

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS[4]	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)			DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	2025	2026	FINAL	
Output 1: Local and district level governance in earthquake-affected areas strengthened to ensure continuity of basic service delivery, support long-term reconstruction, and enhance disaster preparedness	Number of local government with improved facilities for continued basic service delivery Number of Directly: 9100 | Indirectly: 149,495	Progress /Annual Reports of LGs	0	2024	5 Local govt	0	5 Local governments	- Visit reports by UNDP - Reports by LGs, Districts - Photos **Risks and assumptions:** - Social and environmental screening recommending non-suitability at specific sites - Disaster/earthquake affecting the project area leading to reprioritisation. - Lack of priority for local governments

[4] It is recommended that projects use output indicators from the Strategic Plan IRRF, as relevant, in addition to project-specific results indicators. Indicators should be disaggregated by sex or for other targeted groups where relevant.

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EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS[4]	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)			DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	2025	2026	FINAL	
Activity Result 1.1: Capacities of earthquake affected local governments and districts strengthened to deliver basic public services	Number of prefabs constructed for improved basis service delivery	*Reports by LGs and Districts*	7 prefabs building constructed	2024	5 prefabs building constructed	5 prefabs building constructed	10 prefabs buildings constructed	- Visit reports by UNDP - Reports by LGs, Districts - Photos - Meeting minutes - Handover documents **Risks and assumptions:** - Operations and management budget creation by municipalities and districts delayed - Social and environmental screening recommending non-suitability at specific sites - Disaster/earthquake affecting the project area leading to reprioritisation. - Change in design /additional features
Activity Result 1.2: Resilience to earthquake and climate risks enhanced in earthquake affected local governments	Number of Local Governments with enhanced disaster risk preparedness	Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Plans	2 EPRs prepared for LGs	2024	Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Plan for 3 LGs	Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Plan for 2 LGs	Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Plan for 5 LGs	- EPR Plans - Meeting minutes - Visit reports by UNDP - Photos - Handover documents **Risks and assumptions:** - Disaster/earthquake affecting the project municipalities leading to reprioritisation. - Limited ownership by Municipal impacting its institutionalisation - Operations and management budget creation by municipalities and districts delayed

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EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS[4]	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)			DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	2025	2026	FINAL	
	Number of persons trained on disaster response at the local government and community	*Training Reports/Proceedings*	*0*	*2024*	*1000 person trained on disaster response including 30% beneficiaries including women and youths & 50% of all govt. staffs*		*1000 person trained on disaster response including 30% beneficiaries including women and youths & 50% of all govt. staffs*	- Training Modules - Meeting minutes - Training Reports/Proceedings **Risks and assumptions:** - Disaster/earthquake affecting the project municipalities leading to reprioritisation. - Availability of govt. staffs
Output 2: Earthquake-affected community resilience enhanced in selected districts and local governments	*Increased % of women & marginalized groups engaged in economic activity*	Progress /Annual Reports of LGs	*0*	*2024*	*0*	*5% increment of women & marginalized groups in economic activity*	*5% increment of women & marginalized groups in economic activity*	- Progress /Annual Reports of LGs - Visit reports by UNDP **Risks and assumptions:** - Engagement of targeted beneficiaries - Limited budget by municipality for continuity of awareness generation activities
Activity Result 2.1: Livelihoods opportunities created, and market revitalized through, community infrastructure and other livelihoods interventions	Number of household provided support for improved livelihood from bee keeping support	Progress /Annual Reports of LGs	0	2024	600 people benefitted from livelihood support including 30% women led HHs	200 people benefitted from livelihood support including 30% women led HHs	800 people benefitted from livelihood support including 30% women led HHs	- Visit reports by UNDP - Reports by LGs, Districts - Photos - Meeting minutes - Handover documents **Risks and assumptions:** - Operations and management budget for response facility delayed by municipalities - Disaster/earthquake affecting the project area leading to reprioritisation.

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EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS[4]	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)			DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	2025	2026	FINAL	
								- Limited budget by municipality for continuity of awareness generation activities
	Number of facilities constructed i.e. Community Facility Center and small-scale infrastructure for improved economic opportunities	Progress /Annual Reports of LGs	0	2024	25 (additional) (9 CFC; 20 small community infrastructures)	10 (2 cold storage; 4 small community infrastructures)	35 facilities constructed for improved economic opportunities	- Visit reports by UNDP - Reports by LGs, Districts - Photos - Meeting minutes - Handover documents **Risks and assumptions:** - Operations and management budget for response facility delayed by municipalities - Disaster/earthquake affecting the project area leading to reprioritisation.
	2.3 *Number of people directly benefit from psychosocial counselling support*	Progress /Annual Reports of LGs	*0*	*2024*	*300 community members provided support from psychosocial counselling including 30% women, youth and marginalized groups*	*100 community members provided support from psychosocial counselling including 30% women, youth and marginalized groups*	*400 community members provided support from psychosocial counselling including 30% women, youth and marginalized groups*	- Visit reports by UNDP - Reports by LGs, Districts - Photos - Meeting minutes - Handover documents **Risks and assumptions:** - Operations and management budget for response facility delayed by municipalities - Disaster/earthquake affecting the project area leading to reprioritisation. - Limited budget by municipality for continuity of awareness generation activities

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VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The project will be monitored and evaluated as per standard UNDP Procedure and Guideline. The project team will regularly monitor the project activities as per the project monitoring plan prepared at the inception stage of the project. Project evaluation and audit will be conducted as per UNDP Evaluation Policy and UNDP Financial Regulations. UNDP will brief the Embassy of Japan, Nepal every quarter on progress, achievements and challenges, if any. UNDP will work with the Embassy to arrange joint visits to project sites to review progress and seek feedback from beneficiaries. UNDP will submit project reports to the donor as per standard requirements. The project team will finalize the final narrative report within three months after the completion of project, and the final financial report within one year upon completion of the project.

In accordance with UNDP's programming policies and procedures, the project will be monitored through the following monitoring and evaluation plans:

Monitoring Plan

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Partners (if joint)	Cost (if any)
Track results progress	Progress data against the results indicators in the RRF will be collected and analysed to assess the progress of the project in achieving the agreed outputs.	Quarterly, or in the frequency required for each indicator.	Slower than expected progress will be addressed by project management.	UNDP and UN Habitat	US$ 4,000
Monitor and Manage Risk	Identify specific risks that may threaten achievement of intended results. Identify and monitor risk management actions using a risk log. This includes monitoring measures and plans that may have been required as per UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards. Audits will be conducted in accordance with UNDP's audit policy to manage financial risk.	Quarterly	Risks are identified by project management and actions are taken to manage risk. The risk log is actively maintained to keep track of identified risks and actions taken.	UNDP and UN Habitat	US$ 3,000
Learn	Knowledge, good practices and lessons will be captured regularly, as well as actively sourced from other projects and partners and integrated back into the project.	At least annually	Relevant lessons are captured by the project team and used to inform management decisions.	UNDP	US$ 35,000
Annual Project Quality Assurance	The quality of the project will be assessed against UNDP's quality standards to identify project strengths and weaknesses and to inform management decision making to improve the project.	Annually	Areas of strength and weakness will be reviewed by project management and used to inform decisions to improve project performance.	UNDP	US$ 15,000

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Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Partners (if joint)	Cost (if any)
Review and Make Course Corrections	Internal review of data and evidence from all monitoring actions to inform decision making.	At least annually	Performance data, risks, lessons and quality will be discussed by the project board and used to make course corrections.	UNDP	US$ 2500
Project Report	A progress report will be presented to the Project Board and key stakeholders, consisting of progress data showing the results achieved against pre-defined annual targets at the output level, the annual project quality rating summary, an updated risk log with mitigation measures, and any evaluation or review reports prepared over the period.	Annually, and at the end of the project (final report)	Prepare narrative report of project's activity and financial progress including quality assurance reporting including risk management, SES monitoring etc.	UNDP	US$ 3000
Project Review (Project Board)	The project's governance mechanism (i.e., project board) will hold regular project reviews to assess the performance of the project and review the Multi-Year Work Plan to ensure realistic budgeting over the life of the project. In the project's final year, the Project Board shall hold an end-of project review to capture lessons learned and discuss opportunities for scaling up and to socialize project results and lessons learned with relevant audiences.	Specify frequency (i.e., at least annually)	Any quality concerns or slower than expected progress should be discussed by the project board and management actions agreed to address the issues identified.	UNDP	US$ 10,000

Evaluation Plan

Evaluation Title	Partners (if joint)	Related Strategic Plan Output	UNSDCF/CPD Outcome	Planned Completion Date	Key Evaluation Stakeholders	Cost and Source of Funding
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

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VII. MULTI-YEAR WORK PLAN

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	SUB-ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Year		RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET				TOTAL
			2025	2026		Funding Source	Budget Description	2025	2026	
Output 1.1: Capacities of earthquake affected local governments and districts strengthened to deliver basic public services	Act 1.1: Earthquake affected municipalities and districts strengthened to deliver basic public service	Sub-Act 1.1.1: Prefab structure for earthquake affected local government /district constructed to deliver basic services	X	X	UN-HABITAT	GOJ	Consultancy Service - Firm	300,000	-	300,000
		Sub-Act 1.1.2: Equipment support provided to earthquake affected local government (LG)/district offices to deliver basic services	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Consultancy Service - Firm	105,000	-	105,000
		Technical Assurance (Field Coordinators, Municipal Associate)	X	X	UN-HABITAT	GOJ	Staff Cost	65,036	-	65,036
		MONITORING	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Travel & DSA	2,000	2,000	4,000
	Sub-TOTAL 1.1							**472,036**	**2,000**	**474,036**

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Output 1.2: Resilience to earthquake and climate risks enhanced in earthquake affected local governments	Act. 1.2: Strengthen disaster response capacity of municipality and create awareness at community level	Sub-Act 1.2.1**:** Prepare and update Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Plan and procedure of municipalities	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Consultancy Service - Firm	110,000	-	110,000
		Act 1.2.2: Strengthen disaster response capacity of municipality and create awareness at community level	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Consultancy Service - Firm	114,768	-	114,768
		Technical Assurance (Field Coordinators, Field Staffs, Municipal Associate)	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Staff Cost	31,382	3,487	34,869
		MONITORING			UNDP	GOJ	Travel & DSA	3,000	-	3,000
		Sub-TOTAL 1.2						**259,150**	**3,487**	**262,637**
		Sub-Total for Output 1						**731,186**	**5,487**	**736,673**
Output 2:1: Livelihoods opportunities created, and market	*Act 2.1: Household provided support for improved livelihood interventions*	Sub. Act 2.1.1: Support for 400 HH on bee-hive installation	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Consultancy Service - Firm	48,000	-	48,000

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revitalized through, community infrastructure and other livelihoods interventions	*Act 2.2: Construction of support facilities i.e. Community Facility Center and small-scale infrastructure for improved economic opportunities*	Sub. Act 2.2.1: Construction of 9 CFC	X	X	UN-HABITAT	GOJ	Consultancy Service - Firm	144,000	-	144,000
	Act 2.1: Livelihoods support and community infrastructure	Sub. Act 2.1.2: Reconstruction of small community infrastructure	X	X	UN-HABITAT	GOJ	Consultancy Service - Firm	171,000	-	171,000
		Sub. Act 2.1.3: Construction support for cold storate in 2 municipalities	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Consultancy Service - Firm	100,000	-	100,000
	Act 2.1.2: Psychosocial social support to earthquake affected community	Sub. Act 2.1.2: Psychosocial social support to earthquake affected community	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Training/ Workshop	48,000	12,000	60,000
		Technical specialist / Consultants, Coordinators etc	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Staff Cost	69,361	17,340	86,701
		MONITORING	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Travel & DSA	1,250	1,250	2,500
		Sub-Total for Output 2						**581,611**	**30,590**	**612,201**

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Project Management Cost	Personnel Costs (Staff Costs)	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Staff Cost	20,651	5,163	25,814
	Communication & Visibility	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Publications	24,500	10,500	35,000
	Kick off meeting / Annual review workshop / Project Boards	X	X	UNDP	UNDP	Meeting/ Workshop	7,000	3,000	10,000
	Joint Monitoring/ Assurance Monitoring	X	X	UNDP	UNDP	Travel & DSA	12,000	3,000	15,000
	Office supplies	X	X	UNDP	UNDP	Supplies	5,600	1,400	7,000
	Vehicle (one 4WD)	X	X	UNDP	UNDP	Vehicle Cost	40,000	-	40,000
	IT Equipment (Laptops-5; UPS-5; printer-2)	X	X	UNDP	UNDP	Supplies	8,000	-	8,000
	Professional Services (Audit/Assurance Activities)	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Professional Fee	2,500	3,000	5,500
	Rental & Maintenance Cost (Field Office)	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Rental Cost	9,298	2,324	11,622
	Internet and Communication Cost	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Internet	3,604	901	4,505
	Office running cost (as relevant)	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Maintenance	10,500	4,500	15,000
	Equipment and Furniture	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Equipment	6,650	-	6,650

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	IT Support Services	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	IT Service	5,248	1,200	6,448
	Technical Quality Assurance Cost	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	Direct Enabling Service (DES) Cost	49,243	9134	58,377
	General Management Support	X	X	UNDP	GOJ	GMS	115,599	5824	121,423
	Sub-TOTAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT						**320,393**	**49,946**	**370,338**
	TOTAL						**1,633,190**	**86,023**	**1,719,212**

Budget Summary

Donor	2025	2026	Amount
Embassy of Japan	**1,560,590**	**78,623**	**1,639,212**
UNDP	**72,600**	**7,400**	**80,000**
TOTAL	**1,633,190**	**86,023**	**1,719,212**

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VIII. GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

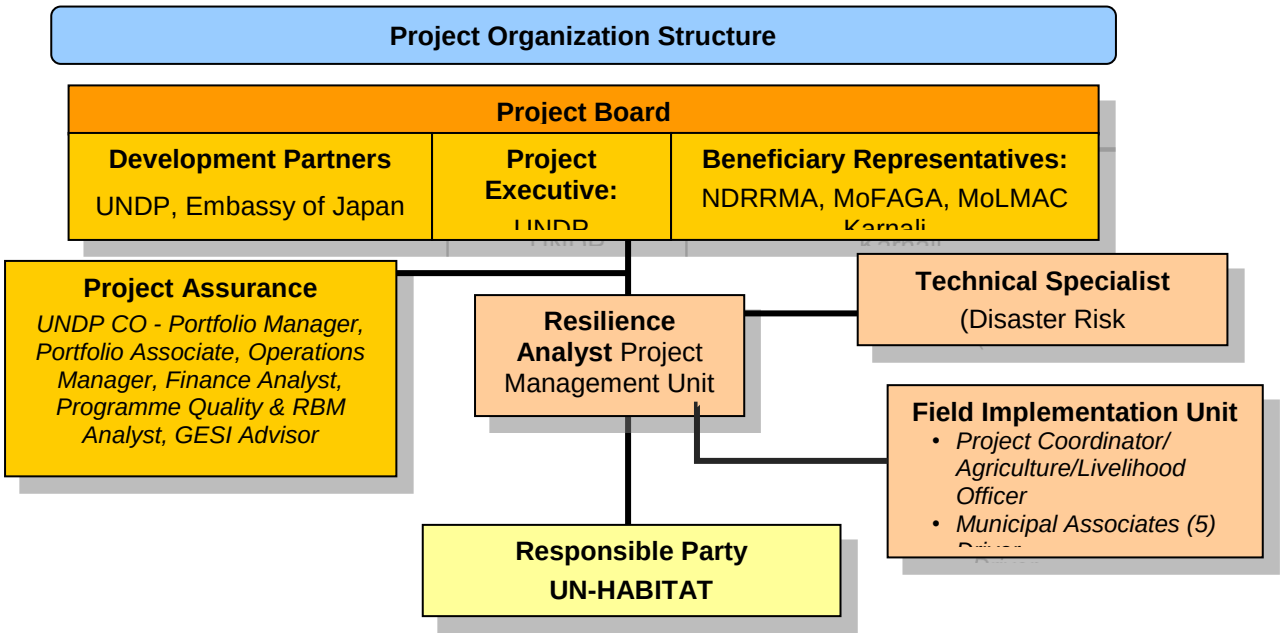
The project will be directly implemented by UNDP Nepal following UNDP's Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) defined in the Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP) in close collaboration with NDRRMA, and relevant provincial and local governments of the project area. The project implementation and management will be guided by the Grant Agreement signed between UNDP and the Government of Japan.

As per the provision of the agreement, UNDP will hold bilateral meetings with the Embassy of Japan on an annual basis to review the project progress, agree on annual project work plans and budgetary matters, addressing implementation challenges and risks.

As per standard practice, UNDP will set up a Project Board, chaired by the UNDP Deputy Resident Representative (DRR), to serve as the highest governance mechanism for overall governance and oversight for project implementation. UNDP's Policy Advisor, Portfolio Manager for Environment and Resilience, Project Manager, UNDP Operations Manager, Programming Quality and RBM Analyst, representatives from Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration and NDRRMA at the federal level and Ministry of Agriculture of Karnali provincial government and the representative of local governments from the project areas, will be members of the Project Board. The Project Board will review project performance based on monitoring, evaluation and reporting, including progress reports, risk logs and financial delivery reports. The Project Board is responsible for making management decisions to ensure best value for money, fairness, timeliness, integrity, transparency, effectiveness and all decision will remain in line with Grant Agreement between the Government of Japan and UNDP.

The Project Board will meet at least once a year and more frequently if so decided by the Board. The Project Board is responsible for making, by consensus, management decisions for the project when guidance is required by the Resilience Analyst, including recommendations for approval of project plans and revisions. In order to ensure accountability, Project Board decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value for money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effectiveness. In case a consensus cannot be reached within the Board, final decision shall rest with UNDP.

Fig 2: Project Board Structure



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The Terms of Reference for the Project Board is provided in Annex: TOR for Project Board and represented diagrammatically in Fig 2: Project Board Structure.

Project Board Mandate: Approve project's annual plans and budgets, progress reports on results and finances, as per Grant Agreement. Discuss overall strategic direction and status of implementation, risks and cross-cutting issues. This is the formal, highest-level decision-making body, accountable for the project's overall management and results. Refer ANNEX: TOR for Project Board

Chaired by: *UNDP, Deputy Resident Representative*

Participants: ***UNDP,*** NDRRMA, Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA), Province Ministry of Agriculture, Land Management and Cooperatives (MoLMAC), Karnali, UN-Habitat

On a day-to-day basis, the Resilience Analyst/Urban Planner at UNDP has the authority to run the project on behalf of UNDP with the constraints laid down by the Project Board and in accordance with the UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP). Representatives of Responsible Parties and other key stakeholders will be invited to Project Board meetings as observers.

The Terms of Reference for the Project Board is provided in Annex: TOR for Project Board.

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IX. LEGAL CONTEXT

This project document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article 1 of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Nepal and UNDP, signed on 16 July 1984. All references in the SBAA to "Executing Agency" shall be deemed to refer to "Implementing Partner."

This project will be implemented by UNDP ("Implementing Partner") in accordance with its financial regulations, rules, practices and procedures only to the extent that they do not contravene the principles of the Financial Regulations and Rules of UNDP. Where the financial governance of an Implementing Partner does not provide the required guidance to ensure best value for money, fairness, integrity, transparency, and effective international competition, the financial governance of UNDP shall apply.

X. RISK MANAGEMENT

1. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will comply with the policies, procedures and practices of the United Nations Security Management System (UNSMS.)

2. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the [project funds][5] [UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document][6] are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism , that the recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder do not appear on the United Nations Security Council Consolidated Sanctions List, and that no UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document are used for money laundering activities. The United Nations Security Council Consolidated Sanctions List can be accessed via https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/un-sc-consolidated-list. This provision must be included in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into under this Project Document.

3. Social and environmental sustainability will be enhanced through application of the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (http://www.undp.org/ses) and related Accountability Mechanism (http://www.undp.org/secu-srm).

4. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will: (a) conduct project and programme-related activities in a manner consistent with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, (b) implement any management or mitigation plan prepared for the project or programme to comply with such standards, and (c) engage in a constructive and timely manner to address any concerns and complaints raised through the Accountability Mechanism. UNDP will seek to ensure that communities and other project stakeholders are informed of and have access to the Accountability Mechanism.

5. In the implementation of the activities under this Project Document, UNDP as the Implementing Partner will handle any sexual exploitation and abuse ("SEA") and sexual harassment ("SH") allegations in accordance with its regulations, rules, policies and procedures.

6. All signatories to the Project Document shall cooperate in good faith with any exercise to evaluate any programme or project-related commitments or compliance with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. This includes providing access to project sites, relevant personnel, information, and documentation.

7. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will ensure that the following obligations are binding on each responsible party, subcontractor, and sub-recipient:

[5] To be used where UNDP is the Implementing Partner

[6] To be used where the UN, a UN fund/programme or a specialized agency is the Implementing Partner

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a. Consistent with the Article III of the SBAA *[or the Supplemental Provisions to the Project Document]*, the responsibility for the safety and security of each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient and its personnel and property, and of UNDP's property in such responsible party's, subcontractor's and sub-recipient's custody, rests with such responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient. To this end, each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient shall:

   i. put in place an appropriate security plan and maintain the security plan, taking into account the security situation in the country where the project is being carried;

   ii. assume all risks and liabilities related to such responsible party's, subcontractor's and sub-recipient's security, and the full implementation of the security plan.

b. UNDP reserves the right to verify whether such a plan is in place, and to suggest modifications to the plan when necessary. Failure to maintain and implement an appropriate security plan as required hereunder shall be deemed a breach of the responsible party's, subcontractor's and sub-recipient's obligations under this Project Document.

c. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient (each a "sub-party" and together "sub-parties") acknowledges and agrees that UNDP will not tolerate sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse of anyone by the sub-parties, and other entities involved in Project implementation, either as contractors or subcontractors and their personnel, and any individuals performing services for them under the Project Document.

   (a) In the implementation of the activities under this Project Document, each sub-party shall comply with the standards of conduct set forth in the Secretary General's Bulletin ST/SGB/2003/13 of 9 October 2003, concerning "Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse" ("SEA").

   (b) Moreover, and without limitation to the application of other regulations, rules, policies and procedures bearing upon the performance of the activities under this Project Document, in the implementation of activities, each sub-party, shall not engage in any form of sexual harassment ("SH"). SH is defined as any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that might reasonably be expected or be perceived to cause offense or humiliation, when such conduct interferes with work, is made a condition of employment or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment. SH may occur in the workplace or in connection with work. While typically involving a pattern of conduct, SH may take the form of a single incident. In assessing the reasonableness of expectations or perceptions, the perspective of the person who is the target of the conduct shall be considered.

d. In the performance of the activities under this Project Document, each sub-party shall (with respect to its own activities), and shall require from its sub-parties (with respect to their activities) that they, have minimum standards and procedures in place, or a plan to develop and/or improve such standards and procedures in order to be able to take effective preventive and investigative action. These should include: policies on sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse; policies on whistleblowing/protection against retaliation; and complaints, disciplinary and investigative mechanisms. In line with this, sub-parties will and will require that their respective sub-parties will take all appropriate measures to:

   (i) Prevent its employees, agents or any other persons engaged to perform any services under this Project Document, from engaging in SH or SEA;

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(ii) Offer employees and associated personnel training on prevention and response to SH and SEA, where sub-parties have not put in place its own training regarding the prevention of SH and SEA, sub-parties may use the training material available at UNDP;

(iii) Report and monitor allegations of SH and SEA of which any of the sub-parties have been informed or have otherwise become aware, and status thereof;

(iv) Refer victims/survivors of SH and SEA to safe and confidential victim assistance; and

(v) Promptly and confidentially record and investigate any allegations credible enough to warrant an investigation of SH or SEA. Each sub-party shall advise UNDP of any such allegations received and investigations being conducted by itself or any of its sub-parties with respect to their activities under the Project Document, and shall keep UNDP informed during the investigation by it or any of such sub-parties, to the extent that such notification (i) does not jeopardize the conduct of the investigation, including but not limited to the safety or security of persons, and/or (ii) is not in contravention of any laws applicable to it. Following the investigation, the relevant sub-party shall advise UNDP of any actions taken by it or any of the other entities further to the investigation.

e. Each sub-party shall establish that it has complied with the foregoing, to the satisfaction of UNDP, when requested by UNDP or any party acting on its behalf to provide such confirmation. Failure of the relevant sub-party to comply of the foregoing, as determined by UNDP, shall be considered grounds for suspension or termination of the Project.

f. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will ensure that any project activities undertaken by them will be implemented in a manner consistent with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards and shall ensure that any incidents or issues of non-compliance shall be reported to UNDP in accordance with UNDP Social and Environmental Standards.

g. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will take appropriate steps to prevent misuse of funds, fraud, corruption or other financial irregularities, by its officials, consultants, subcontractors and sub-recipients in implementing the project or programme or using the UNDP funds. It will ensure that its financial management, anti-corruption, anti-fraud and anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism policies are in place and enforced for all funding received from or through UNDP.

h. The requirements of the following documents, then in force at the time of signature of the Project Document, apply to each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient: (a) UNDP Policy on Fraud and other Corrupt Practices (b) UNDP Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Policy; and (c) UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations Investigation Guidelines. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient agrees to the requirements of the above documents, which are an integral part of this Project Document and are available online at www.undp.org.

i. In the event that an investigation is required, UNDP will conduct investigations relating to any aspect of UNDP programmes and projects. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will provide its full cooperation, including making available personnel, relevant documentation, and granting access to its (and its consultants', subcontractors' and sub-recipients') premises, for such purposes at reasonable times and on reasonable conditions as may be required for the purpose of an investigation. Should there be a limitation in meeting this obligation, UNDP shall consult with it to find a solution.

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j. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will promptly inform UNDP as the Implementing Partner in case of any incidence of inappropriate use of funds, or credible allegation of fraud, corruption other financial irregularities with due confidentiality.

Where it becomes aware that a UNDP project or activity, in whole or in part, is the focus of investigation for alleged fraud/corruption, each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will inform the UNDP Resident Representative/Head of Office, who will promptly inform UNDP's Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI). It will provide regular updates to the head of UNDP in the country and OAI of the status of, and actions relating to, such investigation.

k. UNDP will be entitled to a refund from the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient of any funds provided that have been used inappropriately, including through fraud corruption, other financial irregularities or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Project Document. Such amount may be deducted by UNDP from any payment due to the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient under this or any other agreement. Recovery of such amount by UNDP shall not diminish or curtail any responsible party's, subcontractor's or sub-recipient's obligations under this Project Document.

Where such funds have not been refunded to UNDP, the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient agrees that donors to UNDP (including the Government) whose funding is the source, in whole or in part, of the funds for the activities under this Project Document, may seek recourse to such responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient for the recovery of any funds determined by UNDP to have been used inappropriately, including through fraud, corruption or other financial irregularities, or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Project Document.

Note: The term "Project Document" as used in this clause shall be deemed to include any relevant subsidiary agreement further to the Project Document, including those with responsible parties, subcontractors and sub-recipients.

l. Each contract issued by the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient in connection with this Project Document shall include a provision representing that no fees, gratuities, rebates, gifts, commissions or other payments, other than those shown in the proposal, have been given, received, or promised in connection with the selection process or in contract execution, and that the recipient of funds from it shall cooperate with any and all investigations and post-payment audits.

m. Should UNDP refer to the relevant national authorities for appropriate legal action any alleged wrongdoing relating to the project or programme, the Government will ensure that the relevant national authorities shall actively investigate the same and take appropriate legal action against all individuals found to have participated in the wrongdoing, recover and return any recovered funds to UNDP.

n. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient shall ensure that all of its obligations set forth under this section entitled "Risk Management" are passed on to its subcontractors and sub-recipients and that all the clauses under this section entitled "Risk Management Standard Clauses" are adequately reflected, mutatis mutandis, in all its sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into further to this Project Document.

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XI. ANNEXES

1. **Project Quality Assurance Report**

   QA_EQ_Jajarkot (Design and Appraisal)_25Feb2025.docx

2. **Social and Environmental Screening Plan (Design)**

   SESP_EQ-Jajarkot_Final_24Feb2025.docx

3. **Risk Analysis**.

   Project Risk Register Description_EQ_Jajarkot_03March2025.docx

4. **Project Board Terms of Reference and TORs of key management positions.**

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Annex I: Terms of Reference

1. TOR for Project Board

All UNDP projects must be governed by a multi-stakeholder board or committee established to review performance based on established monitoring and evaluation metrics and high-level implementation issues to ensure quality delivery of results. For the purpose of this ToR and to ensure standardization, henceforth, as regards project documentation, such a body shall only be referred to by 'Project Board'. The Project Board is the most senior, dedicated oversight body for a UNDP 'Development Project', which is defined in the PPM as an instrument where UNDP "Delivers outputs where UNDP has accountability for design, oversight and quality assurance of the entire project."

The Project Board is responsible for making management decisions by consensus when required, including the approval of project plans and revisions, and the project manager's tolerances. The Project Board approves annual work plans and reviews updates to the project risk log.

Within the overall governance and management arrangements of the project, the role of the Project Board as regards these two key functions ('High-level oversight of the project' and 'Approval of key project execution decisions') is distinct from the roles of entities involved in the implementation of the project, namely the implementing partner (IP), responsibilities parties (if applicable), service providers and project staff.

In order to ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability, the Project Board decisions should be made in accordance with the Quality Standards for Programming that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective national and international competition. An effective Project Board needs credible data, evidence, quality assurance and reporting to aid decision making (see next section on supporting functions to the Board). The Project Board also needs to be accountable to protect against conflicts of interest and fraud.

Specific responsibilities of the Project Board include the following:

- Provide overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints, and promote gender equality and social inclusion (LNOB) in the project implementation;
- Review project performance based on monitoring, evaluation and reporting, including standard quality assurance checks, progress reports, risk logs, spot checks/audit reports and the combined delivery report;
- Address any high-level project issues as raised by the project manager and project assurance;
- Provide guidance on emerging and/or pressing project risks and agree on possible mitigation and management actions to address specific risks (including ensuring compliance with UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards, Fraud/corruption, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment);
- Agree or decide on project manager's tolerances as required, within the parameters set by UNDP (Manage Change in the PPM) and the donor, and provide direction and decisions for exceptional situations when the project manager's tolerances are exceeded;
- Advise on major and minor amendments to the project within the parameters set by UNDP and the donor;
- Agree or decide on a project suspension or cancellation, if required; (note that for GEF and GCF projects it is UNDP that decides to suspend or cancel and project and the Project Board is informed/consulted only).
- Provide high-level direction and recommendations to the project management unit to ensure that the agreed deliverables are produced satisfactorily according to plans.
- Receive and address project level grievance, including overseeing whatever specific compliance and stakeholder response (or grievance) mechanisms have been put in place so that individuals

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and communities potentially affected by the project have access to effective mechanisms and procedures for raising concerns about the social and environmental performance of the project[7].

- Engage in the low value grant selection process where there is no Grant Selection Committee, as guided by the Low Value Grants – UNDP Operational Guide.

Additional responsibilities of the Project Board can include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Ensure coordination between the various donors and government-funded projects and programmes;
- Report to relevant inter-ministerial bodies or higher-level oversight bodies;
- Ensure coordination with multiple government agencies and their participation in project activities;
- Track and monitor co-financing for this project;
- Appraise the annual project implementation report, including the quality assessment rating report;
- Ensure commitment of human resources to support project implementation, arbitrating any issues within the project;
- Act as an informal consultation mechanism for stakeholders;
- Approve the Project Inception Report, Mid-term Review and Terminal Evaluation reports and corresponding management responses;
- Review the final project report package during an end-of-project review meeting to discuss lessons learned and opportunities for scaling up;
- Providing guidance or reporting protocols to technical committees or sub-bodies reporting to the Board (if applicable);

[7] The responsibilities of the board in this regard should follow UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards (SES) as codified in the PPM. It should be noted that while a project board can play a role in addressing or assisting with the compliance and stakeholder response (or grievance) mechanisms put in in place for a given project (as part of their quality assurance and oversight function), this will be in addition to and does not substitute for UNDP's core responsibility to ensure compliance with the SES throughout the project management cycle as part of UNDP's Programming Quality Assurance system.

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ANNEX 2: Management Positions TORs

i. Project Coordinator - 1

The Project Coordinator (PC) will report to the Resilience Analyst/Urban Planner for the LIDRE Project. S/he will be responsible for supporting implementation of the project and work under the overall quality assurance of the Portfolio Management Analyst (Resilience and Environment Portfolio). PC will also be focal point for maintaining communication and coordination with provincial and municipal officials, including the local partners and other key stakeholders engaged in the project. S/he will be responsible for overseeing implementation of the project across all 5 municipalities, both programmatic and financial, including management of the team that is comprised of Municipal Associates, Livelihood Officer.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Lead the development of appropriate working relations with national, provincial and local stakeholders to build their ownership on relevant aspects of the project.
- In collaboration with DRM Specialist, lead coordination with the UN Consortium partners on all aspects of the project during implementation of the project at all levels, adhering to the agreed implementation framework, including on financial and programmatic reporting.
- Ensure coordination with partner agencies during implementation of the activities, ensuring possible and knowledge and resource sharing.
- Ensure all activities are being planned, implemented and monitored in close coordination with the provincial and local governments and line agencies, including the target communities and key stakeholders and community of practices.
- Plan, implementation, management, and coordination aspects of the projects at provincial, district and municipal levels guiding the Provincial Coordinators and rest of the Provincial and Municipal teams.
- Provide oversight and regular updates, including preparation of approach papers for specific activities, quarterly work plans, action plans and calendar of events, in close coordination with the Admin and Finance, M&E, GESI focal person of CDRMP.
- Monitor regularly and ensure timely and adequate implementation of the project activities, undertake necessary preparatory actions for the planned activities, and liaise with relevant parties.
- Provide guidance in liaising with the all three tiers of stakeholders, preparation of the detailed workplan and adherence to action plans/ approaches developed for the project along with engagement of the project staff in community consultation processes.
- Formulate measures so that project approaches, monitoring system and reporting mainstreams the aspects of gender and social inclusion with adequate GESI sensitive data collection and tailored support.
- Lead the integration of GESI aspects in all stages of the project in coordination with GESI Focal Person of UNDP/ SUPER project and consortium members.

Qualifications:

- Master's Degree in Social Science, Disaster Risk Management, Agriculture or any other related fields.
- More than seven years of practical experience in working in development sector
- Experience of working in the area of Humanitarian Response including in urban contexts and good understanding of current DRR policies of the Government of Nepal and familiar with various initiatives at provincial and local levels through various stakeholders (ministries and local bodies)
- Demonstrated social skills of coordinating with different stakeholders and facilitating high level discussions and fostering cooperation amongst various stakeholders
- Experience of working in UN and international agencies will be preferable

ii. Admin and Finance Officer - 1

The Admin. And Finance Officer will work under the guidance of Project Manager, the key responsibilities of the Administration and Finance Officer include the following:

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Roles and Responsibilities:

- Lead the overall financial management of the project and its outputs;
- Maintain and upload the annual/ revise budget and CDRs in ATLAS along with other supporting documents;
- Prepare & review vouchers in ATLAS, obtain approval and process payments for all the financial transactions done at Project;
- Keep record of the disbursements made from UNDP CO and by cooperating agency on behalf of the Project;
- Manage ATLAS generated donor reports for donor reporting;
- Identify capacity gaps of Sub Recipients NGO's in Financial Management and provide guidance where necessary;
- Ensure compliance of all the provisions of DIM Guidelines regarding personnel management, procurement, subcontract and financial management;
- Support and facilitate the DIM audit, RPA and LVG audits as well as internal audit conducted by UNDP and follow up on measures to be taken based on the findings;
- Support the programme team in preparing and updating Annual Work Plan and Acceleration/Quarterly work plan of the project;
- Conduct periodic field monitoring visits to ensure the financial management system in place with the partner organizations/grantees;
- Ensure budgeting from GESI perspective.
- In accordance with the Work Plan arrange for procurement of equipment, supplies and services;
- Provide significant support in annual audit exercise and ensure that the action plan is implemented;
- Support the Project Manager in overseeing the contracts with implementing partners including governmental and non-governmental organizations as well as with service providers for the programme (individuals and companies);
- Support to organize Project Board Meetings; ensure documentation and timely dissemination of minutes to the concerned parties;
- Ensure all administrative, human resource and programme related materials are properly documented and archived for ease of access;
- Full compliance of UN rules and regulations, policies and strategies on travel management and ensure that vehicles are used in accordance with UN rules and regulations and that vehicle usage date is correctly recorded

Qualification:

- Bachelor's or Master's degree in management, Finance, Accounting, Administration or human resource management or any other relevant areas
- At least five years for Bachelor's degree or at least three years for Master's degree of relevant work experience in administration and finance;
- Knowledge of office management including account and financial management skills; and project management procedures that UNDP follows will be a strong asset;
- Experience on administration of projects and development programme.
- Operating knowledge of ATLAS would be an added advantage;
- Experience on working on respective field and working with local governments will be an asset.

iii. Communication and Outreach Officer - 1

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Communication of results and advocacy for enhanced municipal preparedness for urban and earthquake risks with focus on vulnerable population and enhancing risk governance for coordinated response from national to local level.
- Carry out strategic result communication of the project targeting public, the government, and donors through preparation of project specific strategic communication plan. The tasks include

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generating high-quality human-interest stories, press releases, case studies, good practices and advocacy documents, including policy briefs; designing infographics and other visual items for reporting based on the data collected through the project; and effectively utilize social media outlets in disseminating key project activities.

- Closely liaise with the UNDP Nepal country office communication unit for the contents of communication, while working independently for production of high-quality products.
- Ensure that the ECHO component of CDRMP/UNDP project website is up to date for public view.
- Maintain communication/coordination mechanism with the Provincial Coordinator as well as the national staffs and other provincial and municipal technical officers, for communication and outreach related work.
- Synchronize actions at field level between different actors within the components of this project.
- Establish and maintain contacts with print and electronic media nationally and locally in the area where the project activities are implemented.
- Lead in carrying out media (district/national) visits to the sites to document and report issues and good practices as an advocacy tool.
- Daily monitoring, review and record media coverage of the portfolio and circulate to relevant authorities.
- Wherever possible, analyze any gap in communication for the project beneficiaries and suggest the project team for potential improvement.
- Contribute in reviewing of translations, contacts with printers and other vendors to ensure timely and quality production of IEC materials and other resources.
- Provide logistical support to information campaigns along key events or international days.
- Maintain visual/audio archive of the project outcomes (photo, videography etc.).
- Liaise with project team, relevant government stakeholders and agency for the development of high-quality risk communication materials for the beneficiaries.
- Support the project management team in production of quality Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials and other communication resources for the beneficiaries
- Ensure project communication and outreach are maintained in line with project communication framework and various baseline and simulation
- Ensure that project approaches, communication, visibility and outreach mainstreams the aspects of gender and social inclusion with adequate GESI sensitive tailored support in communication.
- Support for documentation of project results and achievements and their dissemination in coordination with national project coordinator and senior project officers
- Guide and work with information and database officer to collect and comply, reports, data, news, events, human stories, challenges and lessons learnt to publish in periodic reports
- Support in integration of GESI aspects in all stages of the project in coordination with GESI Focal Person of UNDP-SUPER

Qualification:

- Bachelor's degree in communications, media studies, IT, journalism, international relations, international development or another related field.
- At least 4 years of relevant experience in strategic communication, content development or marketing in the development sector with proven skill in urban disaster preparedness and earthquake preparedness
- Experience of working with NDRRMA, MoFAGA (facilitation of technical working group) and local level for preparation of high-quality communication and knowledge products.
- Working experience of traditional and social media, digital marketing, multimedia (photography/videography) tools and a variety of other communication platforms.
- Preparation of lesson learned, knowledge products focusing on urban disaster preparedness initiatives including earthquake reconstruction and recovery.
- Demonstrated technical skills in preparation of disaster risk management/preparedness related IEC materials.

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- Demonstrated social skills of coordinating with different stakeholders and facilitating discussions including shared learning dialogues.
- Excellent skills on preparing high quality reports, human interest stories, case studies and other knowledge products.
- Working knowledge of graphic design and video editing tools like Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Canva, Premiere Pro or Final Cut Pro.

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Minutes of the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC)

Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the Areas Affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake

Date: 18 February 2025, Tuesday
Time: 12:00 - 1:30 PM
Venue: Sagarmatha Meeting Room, UNDP Country Office, UN House, Pulchowk
Chair: **Mr. Julien Chevillard,** Officer-in-Charge, UNDP Nepal

A. Attendees

Attendees		
Name	**Title**	**Organization**
Mr. Julien Chevillard	Deputy Resident Representative	United Nations Development Programme
Mr. Mohan Kumar Ghimire	Under Secretary, Environment and Disaster Risk Management Section	Ministry of Federal Affairs & General Administration (MoFAGA)
Ms. Goma Devi Chemjong	Under Secretary, Communication and Coordination Section	National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA)
Mr. Vijaya Prasad Singh	Assistant Resident Representative, Policy Advisor, Resilience	United Nations Development Programme
Ms Pragya Pradhan	Habitat Programme Manager	UNHABITAT
Mr. Nibedan Baidya	Operations Manager	United Nations Development Programme
Mr. Rafeeque A. Siddiqui	Head of Field Office, Karnali Province	United Nations Development Programme
Mr. Pragyajan Yalamber Rai	Portfolio Manager	United Nations Development Programme
Mr. Deepak KC	Programme Analyst	United Nations Development Programme

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Ms. Ambika Amatya	Procurement Associate	United Nations Development Programme
Ms. Purnima Bajracharya	Head of Exploration	United Nations Development Programme
Mr. Shiva Kumar Shrestha	Project Manager, RERAS Project	United Nations Development Programme
Mr. Siddhartha Sharma	Project Coordinator, SUPER 2 Project	United Nations Development Programme
Ms. Sooyeon Kang	GESI and PR Officer	United Nations Development Programme
Ms. Vijayata Shrestha	Portfolio Associate	United Nations Development Programme
Ms. Sajani Chaudhary	Programme Assistant, Karnali Field Office	United Nations Development Programme
Mr. Sudhir Kumar	Risk Mangagement Specialist	United Nations Development Programme
Ms. Barsha Chitrakar	Resilience Analyst	United Nations Development Programme
Mr. Ashish Thapa Magar	Communication & Outreach Analyst	United Nations Development Programme
Ms. Maiko Ikeda	Project Assistant	United Nations Development Programme

B. Meeting Agenda

Time	Agenda	Details
12:00 PM	Arrival of Participants	
12:00-12:10 PM	Introduction	Pragyajan Yalamber Rai, Portfolio Manager, Resilience & Environment, UNDP
12:05 – 12:10 PM	Welcome and Objective	Julien Chevillard, Chair, Officer-in-Charge (OIC), UNDP

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12:10 – 12:35 PM	Presentation of the "*Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the Areas Affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake*" project	Sudhir Kumar, Risk Management Specialist, UNDP
12:35 – 1:00 PM	Open Session	Facilitated by Chair
1:00 – 1:25 PM	Concluding Remarks	NDRRMA MoFAGA MoF
1:25 – 1:30 PM	Closing Remarks and Vote of Thanks	Julien Chevillard Chair

C. Introduction

Mr. Pragyajan Yalamber Rai, Portfolio Manager, Resilience and Environment at UNDP Nepal, welcomed all members to the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) meeting for the Government of Japan (GoJ) supported project, *Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the Areas Affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake*. He highlighted that the proposal was conceptualized by drawing learnings from the implementation of early recovery support in Jajarkot and other affected areas. UNDP is extended appreciation to GoJ for this commitment and the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) for their continued support. He also emphasized that the PAC is mandated with appraising the quality of the project, identifying and addressing any gaps, and refining the project concept.

D. Welcome and Objective

Mr. Julien Chevillard, Officer-in-charge at UNDP Nepal, thanked all the participants for their presence. He reiterated that the meeting is part of UNDP's project quality assurance process and it is conducted before the implementation of any new project. It tries to assess whether the project design aligns with the country's needs and meets the required quality standards. The meeting brings together representatives from development partners, government counterparts, partner UN agencies, and technical specialists. UNDP Programme personnel to assure project quality and project counterparts are also invited to the meeting.

He mentioned that UNDP had been involved in the response and early recovery efforts following the Jajarkot Earthquake on 3 November 2023, which affected approximately 250,000 people. He further mentioned that UNDP Co-Chairs the Early Recovery Cluster with the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA) and has remained committed for recovery work post-Jajarkot earthquake. UNDP has a long-standing partnership with the NDRRMA on disaster risk reduction and preparedness, including the support for disaster response and early recovery post-Jajarkot earthquake. With support from the GoJ, UNDP has planned to continue the early recovery interventions with focus on supporting the Local Government (LG) with construction of pre-fab buildings to ease delivery of public services and livelihoods support for the affected communities.

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Mr. Julien further explained that the *Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the Areas Affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake* project is a continuation of UNDP's support to the local governments and communities impacted by the earthquake. The process began about a year ago, when UNDP initiated discussion with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and General Administration, Government of Japan and concerned federal ministries of Nepal, including NDRRMA, the MoFAGA.

Mr. Julien mentioned that the project aims to provide early recovery support to the most affected communities in Jajarkot and Rukum West districts, working closely with five local governments (Bheri, Nalgad, Sanibheri, Barekot, and Aathbiskot rural/municipalities). The one-year project will focus on restoring the public services through construction of 10 prefabs, and support for livelihoods and capacity building. He highlighted that the project was recently approved by the Japanese Cabinet and will be implemented by March 2025. With this, he requested Mr Sudhir Kumar to proceed with the presentation.

E. Presentation of the "Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the Areas Affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake" project

Mr. Sudhir Kumar, Risk Management Specialist, UNDP Nepa made a detailed presentation on the *Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the Areas Affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake* project. While highlighting overarching goal of the project, he mentioned that the project aims to create enabling environment for long-term reconstruction and support communities through livelihoods interventions as part of the early recovery. He mentioned that UNDP will leverage its experience from the Gorkha earthquake recovery, where it provided socio-technical assistance for long-term housing reconstruction led by the Government of Nepal and supported by Government of India. He mentioned that UNDP is a global Early recovery cluster lead and co-lead in Nepal at federal and province levels including Karnali. UNDP undertook construction of 7 prefabs following the earthquake in Karnali. It also implemented several solar solutions and agriculture/livelihoods activities with support of the Government of Japan in Karnali and it will leverage these experiences.

He mentioned that the project Goal is *To support effective earthquake recovery and long-term resilience, by enhancing government capacity for service delivery, support reconstruction, and promote revitalized livelihoods.* To achieve the Goal, the objectives are:

- To enhance capacities of earthquake-affected LGs for effective basic service delivery, reconstruction, and long-term resilience
- To strengthen sustainable and resilient livelihoods of earthquake affected people and communities
- To enhance capacity of LGs on emergency preparedness and response through improved plans/procedures, response equipment and response facilities

Mr. Sudhir Kumar gave an overview of the project and mentioned that this one-year duration project will start in March 2025 and will close in February 2026. The project budget is USD 1.719 million (80,000 USD by UNDP) supported by the Government of Japan and it will be implemented in the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM). The implementation Areas are namely Bheri, Nalgad, Sanibheri, Barekot and Aathbiskot rural/municipalities. He shared Project's Theory of Change.

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Damaged government buildings immediately replaced by prefab structures and equipment & risk governance of the municipalities strengthened

Damaged critical community infrastructure rebuilt immediately

Limited capacities of LGs & community to respond to disasters increased through improved disaster preparedness and emergency response

- Disrupted public services restored and smooth transition towards long long-term recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation.
- Livelihood services of the poor, women and vulnerable community restored, and new livelihood opportunities created
- Loss from future disaster reduced at community and resilience to risks enhanced

Project Outputs

Output	Activities	Targets/Indicators
Output 1: Local and district level governance in earthquake-affected areas strengthened to ensure continuity of basic service delivery, support long-term reconstruction, and enhance disaster preparedness	**Activity Result 1.1:** Capacities of earthquake affected local governments and districts strengthened to deliver basic public services	10 prefabs
	Activity Result 1.2: Resilience to earthquake and climate risks enhanced in earthquake affected local governments	5 Local Governments
Output 2: Earthquake-affected community resilience enhanced in selected districts and local governments	**Activity Result 2.1:** Livelihoods opportunities created, and market revitalized through, community infrastructure and other livelihoods interventions	**400 households** *(30% women led households and marginalized HH)* (improved livelihood from bee-keeping support)
		33 facilities constructed (Community Facility Center and small-scale infrastructure)
		400 people *(30% women & marginalized people)* (psychosocial counselling)

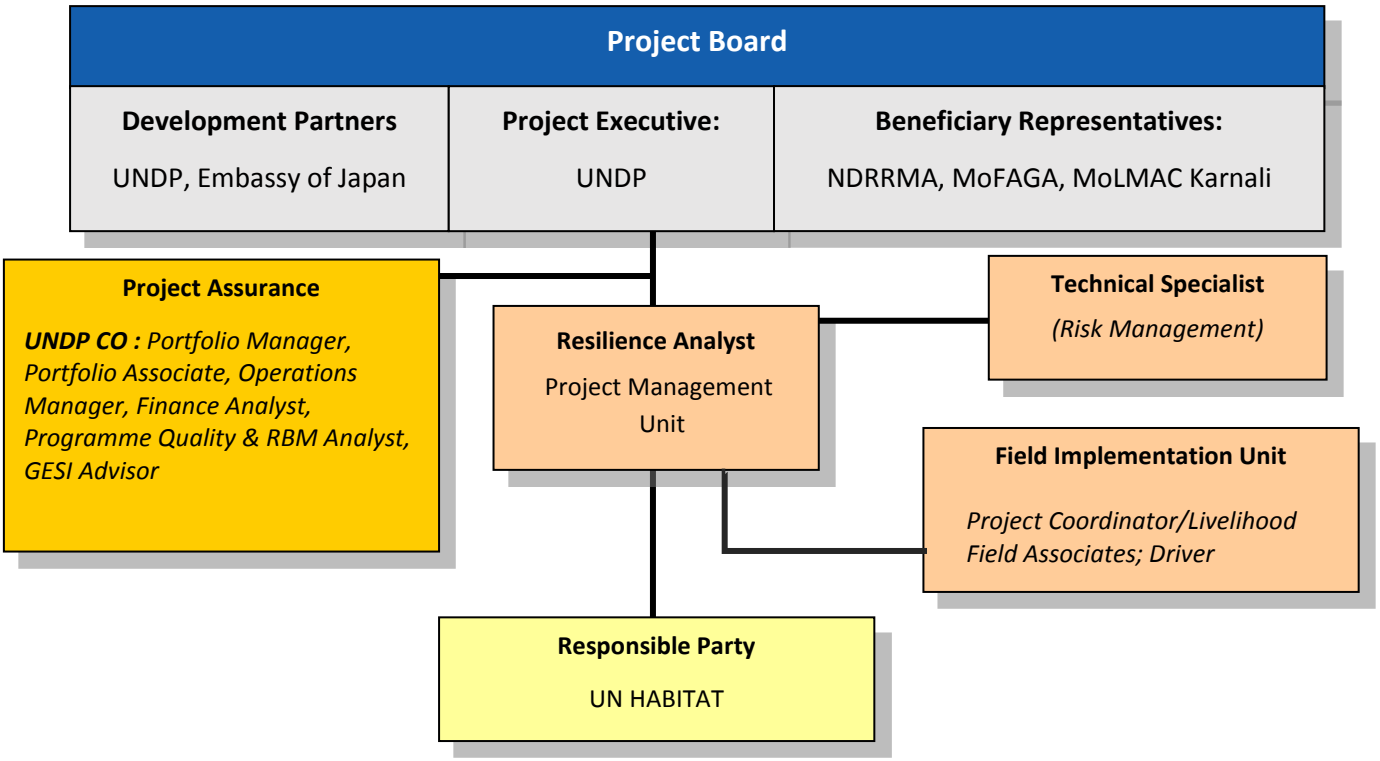
He highlighted the below points regarding the Quality Assurance and Monitoring and Evaluation of the project.

- Joint visit with the Embassy of Japan in Kathmandu to project sites to review progress and seek feedback from beneficiaries.
- Oversight & Assurance missions

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- Regular site visits, surveys, and interviews with stakeholders.
- UNDP will brief the Embassy of Japan, Nepal every quarter on progress, achievements and challenges, if any.
- UNDP will submit progress reports to EoJ as per standard requirements.
- Final narrative report within three months of project completion.
- Financial report within one year of project completion.

Project Organization Structure

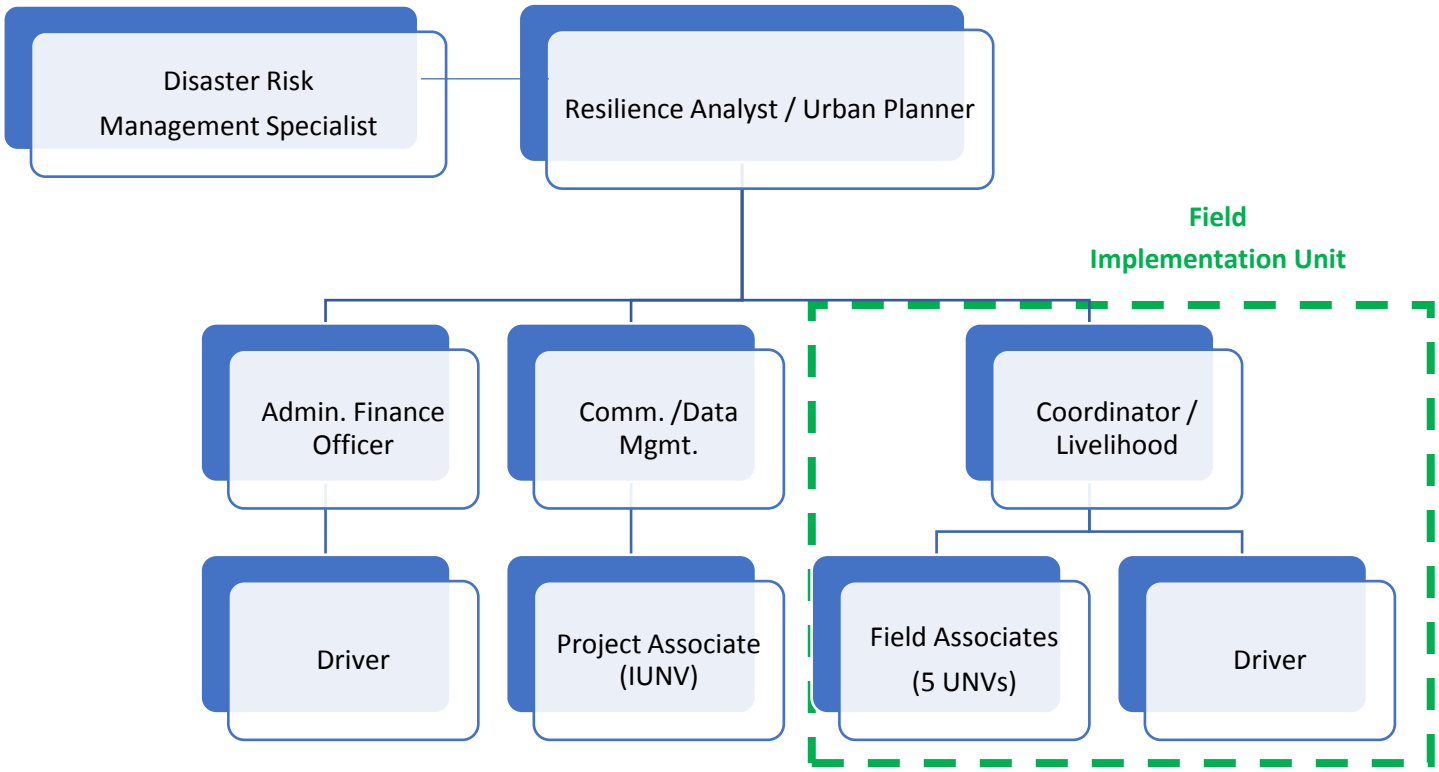


Project Board Structure and Responsibilities:

- Formal, highest-level decision-making body, accountable for the project's overall management & results.
- Approve project's annual plans and budgets, progress reports on results and finances.
- Discuss overall strategic direction and status of implementation, risks and cross-cutting issues.
- Meetings on an annual basis.
- **Chair:** UNDP, Deputy Resident Representative.
- **Members:** EoJ, UNDP, NDRRMA, MoFAGA & MoLMAC (Karnali)
- Resilience Analyst with technical guidance from RM Specialist under UNDP has the authority to run the project on behalf of UNDP with the constraints laid down by the PB and in accordance with the UNDP POPP.
- Representatives of Responsible Parties and other key stakeholders will be invited to PB meetings as observers.

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Project Team



Expected Results, Key Activities and Budget

Expected Outputs	Planned Activities	Amount (USD)
Output 1.1: Earthquake affected municipalities and districts strengthened to deliver basic public service	Act 1.1: Prefab structure for earthquake affected local government /district constructed to deliver basic services	475,036
	Act 1.1.2: Equipment support provided to the earthquake affected local government (LG)/district offices to deliver basic services	
	Technical Assurance (Field Coordinators, Municipal Associate), monitoring	
Output 1.2: Strengthen disaster response capacity of municipality and create	Act 1.2.1: Prepare and update Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Plan and procedure of municipalities	263,637
	Act 1.2.2: Strengthen disaster response capacity of municipality and create awareness at community level	

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awareness at community level	Technical Assurance (Field Coordinators, Field Staffs, Municipal Associate), monitoring	
Output 2:1: Livelihoods opportunities created, and market revitalized through, community infrastructure and other livelihoods interventions	Act 2.1.1: Livelihoods support and community infrastructure	613,701
	Act 2.1.2: Psychosocial social support to earthquake affected community	
	Technical Assurance, monitoring	
Project Management Cost	Project Management	366,838
Grand Total		**1,719,212**

Budget Allocation by Donor

Donor	Amount (USD)
Embassy of Japan	1,639,212
UNDP	80,000
Total Contribution	**1,719,212**

Risk Management

Risk	Mitigation Measures
A massive earthquake requiring humanitarian response and recovery support for a longer duration requiring engagement of whole federal and local government.	Consultation with government and EoJ in Nepal to reprioritize activities. The lessons from the Jajarkot earthquake of 2023 in the project area and the September 2024 floods will be useful
Intense monsoon for several weeks and months, thus restricting access to project sites for several weeks and months.	Activities will be scheduled considering the restricted access to the project areas during this period.
A pandemic wave may result in federal / provincial / local governments imposing lockdowns with shift in priority of the federal and municipal level government and lockdowns.	Prioritization in consultation with Gov't and EoJ
High turnover of local government staff	Monthly meeting of project team with LGs to foresee risk and mitigate it
Vulnerable groups including women and Persons with disabilities have limited access to project benefits	GEDSI a key criterion in activity design and selection of beneficiaries. The structures such as prefabs and community facility centers will have features for easy access to persons with disabilities. Segregated data.

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Social, environmental safeguards and workplace safety not implemented	SES and SESP implementation; Grievance Redress Mechanism to be established

Workplan

Output/Activity		Timeline (month)											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Inception phase	Recruitment of staffs, Baseline, Office set-up, Project launch, etc.												
Output 1: LGs & district in Eq-affected areas strengthened to ensure continuity of basic service delivery, support long-term reconstruction, and enhance preparedness	**Activity 1.1.1:** Prefab structures for earthquake affected local governments /districts constructed to deliver basic services												
	Activity 1.1.2: Equipment support provided to earthquake affected local governments (LG)/district offices to deliver basic services												
	Activity 1.2.1: Prepare and update Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Plan and procedure of local governments												
	Activity 1.2.2: Strengthen disaster response capacity of local governments and create awareness at community level												
Output 2: Eq-affected community resilience enhanced in selected districts and LGs	**Activity 2.1.1** Provision of livelihoods support and community infrastructure												
	Activity 2.1.2 Psychosocial social support to earthquake affected community members												
Closing phase	Handing over assets, reporting, national workshop, documentation, etc.												

F. Open Discussion:

Ms. Gomadevi Chemjong, Under Secretary at NDRMMA, inquired whether UNDP is planning to hire higher-level additional staff for the project. In response, UNDP mentioned that the existing staff would be mobilized to ensure cost-effectiveness except a few field staffs at local levels. She also inquired whether UNDP had consulted with local governments and generated evidence that highlights the project's need at the local level. Mr. Vijaya Singh, Policy Advisor, UNDP, responded that UNDP had consulted with local governments during the response and early recovery interventions at LG and district. The project activities

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were identified during the development of the Joint Recovery Action Plan (JRAP), which was discussed in the ER Cluster meeting and this project will implement some of the JRAP activities. He mentioned that the provincial representatives couldn't attend this PAC meeting due to scheduling conflicts and that UNDP would hold consultations with provincial and local representatives before the project document is finalized. Mr. Julien re-affirmed that the detailed workplan would be finalized, after the consultations with provincial and local governments.

Ms. Gomadevi further inquired about process of the Project Board formation including mandate and guidance. Mr. Vijaya Singh responded that UNDP follows a set of procedures to implement any project including establishing a governance mechanism, namely the Project Board. The board comprises major stakeholders and the proposed structure of this project board is being discussed today. Mr. Julien added that the Project will be implemented under the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) and in line with the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (1984) signed with the Government of Nepal. The membership of the Board is largely based on relevance of project activities, geographical area, etc. vis-à-vis the members. For this project, NDRMMA is part of the board as recovery/ disaster preparedness component of the project is core mandate of NDRRMA. MoFAGA is part of the Board as the project targets LGs and MoFAGA coordinates it. Ministry of Land Management, Agriculture and Co-operatives (Karnali Province) is the Board member as project has significant livelihoods/agriculture component. Mr. Julien also assured that UNDP would follow NDRMMA guidelines regarding reporting aspects.

Mr. Mohan Kumar Ghimire, Under Secretary at MoFAGA, highlighted the need to expedite the project activities as the project duration is short and the monsoon is likely to impact implementation. Mr. Mohan mentioned that UNDP should comply with the Partner Organization Mobilization Procedure for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management, 2081 (BS), recently endorsed by the NDRRMA while implementing the project. He further mentioned that UNDP works closely with all tiers of government and suggested making local governments more accountable for this project. Mr. Mohan suggested avoiding creation of new structures/institutional arrangements to ensure optimal resource utilization and reduce administrative costs. He assured that the government would support through technical human resources at the local level.

Ms. Pragya Pradhan, Programme Manager, UN-Habitat, thanked UNDP for collaborating with UN-Habitat for implementation of some of the project's activities. She highlighted that such collaboration between two agencies had begun since 2009. She assured that the project activities will be aligned with the local needs and will be executed with due consideration of festival calendar.

Mr. Rafeeque Siddiqui, Head of UNDP Field Office of Karnali Province shared that he had briefed the provincial government, namely Karnali Province Planning Commission, about the project. He envisaged that Karnali Province government will welcome this important project on post-earthquake reconstruction and rehabilitation. He also cautioned the project team to implement project activities in a timely manner to avoid unforeseeable delays.

Mr. Julien Chevillard, Chair suggested removing the monsoon risk from the risk register/matrix, as monsoon timeline is predictable, and it is an assumption. He recommended preparing a comprehensive risk matrix that incorporates all specifics, including social and environmental safety, although UNDP does

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SES mapping. A comprehensive mitigation strategy for the risks identified needs to be included in the matrix. The high turnover of government staff could potentially lead to delays in project implementation and this should be clarified in the matrix.

G. Closing Remarks and Vote of Thanks:

In his closing remarks, Mr. Julien thanked all the participants for their input and highlighted that inputs will be incorporated into the final project document. He highlighted that UNDP acknowledges and takes into consideration all the feedback shared during the open session. He formally closed the meeting after mentioning the action points.

H. Decision:

Action	Timeline	Responsible	Status (to be updated periodically)
Additional consultations with LGs to be organized to seek their inputs on project work plan and priorities for pre-fab public buildings and other community infrastructure, and support needed for annual budget planning and resource plan for upcoming Fiscal Year.	4 March 2025	UNDP	ongoing
Coordination with NDRRMA to avoid duplication and progress reporting to NDRRMA in the reporting format of NDRRMA	Regular	UNDP	
Revise risk register to take out monsoon related risk as monsoon is predictable, and include staff turnover leading to project delay and strengthen Social & Environmental Screening related issue	4 March 2025	UNDP	
Adjust timeline considering monsoon and festival calendars	4 March 2025	UNDP	-

I. Signatory:

Approved By:

DocuSigned by:

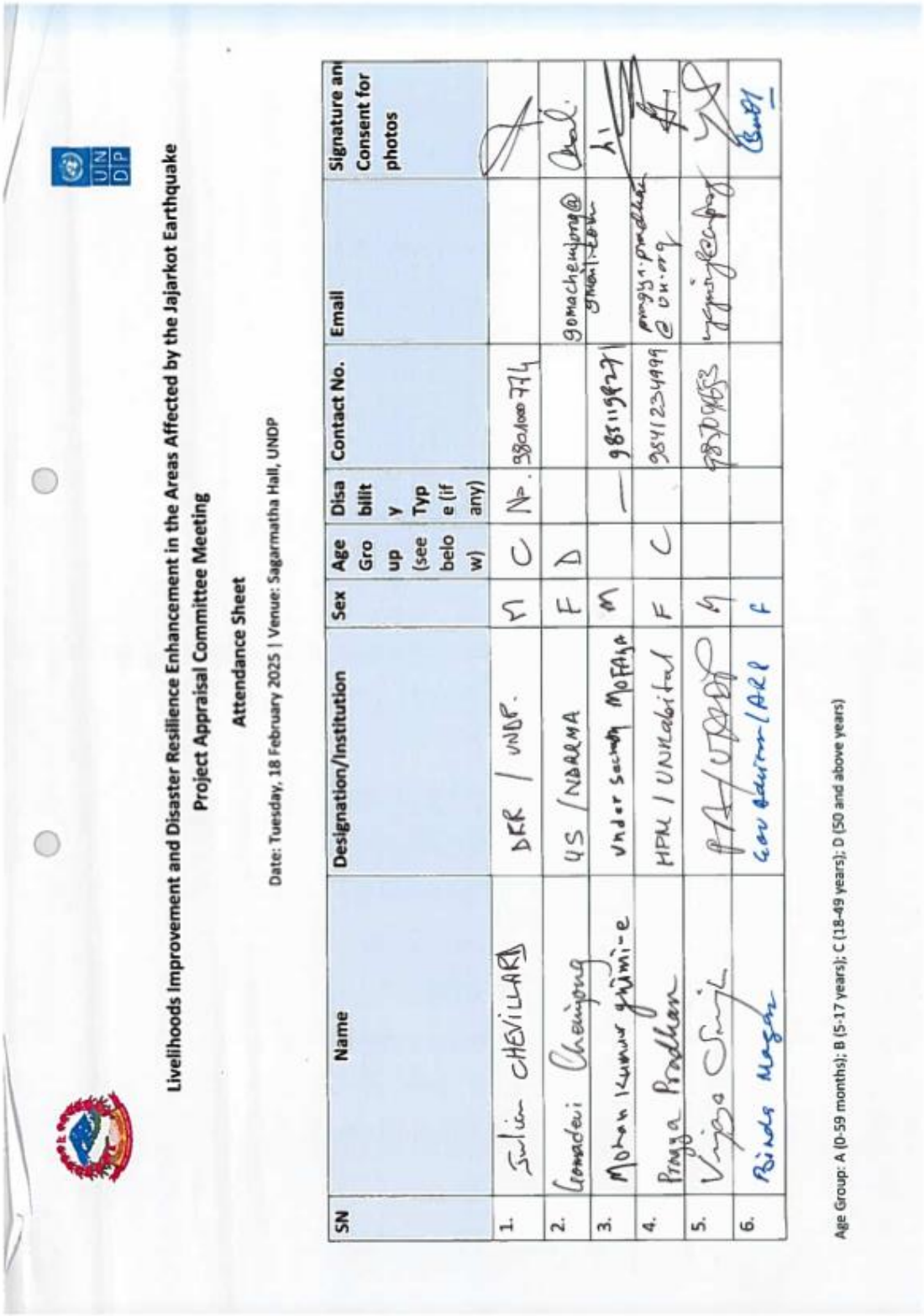
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Julien Chevillard
Chair, Officer-in-charge

Date: 18 February 2025

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Annex A: Attendance Sheet



Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the Areas Affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake

Project Appraisal Committee Meeting

Attendance Sheet

Date: Tuesday, 18 February 2025 | Venue: Sagarmatha Hall, UNDP

SN	Name	Designation/Institution	Sex	Age Group up (see below)	Disability Type (if any)	Contact No.	Email	Signature and Consent for photos
1.	Sulian CHEVILLARD	DRR / UNDP	M	C	No.	9801060774		
2.	Gomadevi Cheinjong	US / NDRRMA	F	D			gomacheinjong@gmail.com	
3.	Mohan Kumar Ghimire	Under Secretary MoFAGA	M			9851198271		
4.	Pinga Pradhan	HPAL / UNRCO Nepal	F	C		9841234999	pingya.pradhan@un.org	
5.	Vijaya Singh	[illegible]	M			9851065853	vijayasingh@undp.org	
6.	Rinku Magar	Gov Advisor / ADP	F					

Age Group: A (0-59 months); B (5-17 years); C (18-49 years); D (50 and above years)

SN	Name	Designation/Institution	Sex	Age Group (see below)	Disability Type (if any)	Contact No.	Email	Signature and Consent for photos
7.	Nibedan baidya	operations manager/UNDP	M	—	No	9851091894		
8.	Pragyajan Rai	Portfolio Analyst	M	C	N	9851241242		
9.	Anbika Amatya	Programme Associate	F		N	9851241262		Anbika
10.	DeePAK KC	Programme analyst – cc & Resilience	M		N	9851241261	deepak.kc@undp.org	Deepak
11.	Purnima Bajracharya	Exploration Analyst	F		No	9851036457	purnima.bajracharya@undp.org	
12.	Soyeon Kang	GESI & programme Reporting officer	F		No	9709089233	soyeon.kang@undp.org	
13.	Shiva Kumar Shrestha	PM, CERAS, UNDP	M		No	9842946552	shiva.shrestha@undp.org	
14.	Krishna Raj Kaphle	DPR/SUPER, UNDP	M		No	9851003367	krishna.raj.kaphle@undp.org	
15.	Arnish T. Magar	Comms&Outreach Analyst	M	C	N	9841933880	arnish.thapa.magar@undp.org	
16.	SUDHIR KUMAR	RMS, UNDP	M	C	N	—	—	

Age Group: A (0-59 months); B (5-17 years); C (18-49 years); D (50 and above years)

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SN	Name	Designation/Institution	Sex	Age Group (see below)	Disability Type (if any)	Contact No.	Email	Signature and Consent for photos
17.	Maiko Ikeda	PA	F	25		9702419382	maiko.ikeda@undp.org	
18.	Siddhartha Sharma	NPC	M	45	No.	9851121071	siddhartha.sharma@undp.org	
19.								
20.								
21.								
22.								
23.								
24.								
25.								

Age Group: A (0-59 months); B (5-17 years); C (18-49 years); D (50 and above years)

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ANNEX B: Presentation

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PROJECT QA ASSESSMENT: DESIGN AND APPRAISAL

OVERALL PROJECT

EXEMPLARY (5) ◎◎◎◎◎	HIGHLY SATISFACTORY (4) ◎◎◎◎○	SATISFACTORY (3) ◎◎◎○○	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT (2) ◎◎○○○	INADEQUATE (1) ◎○○○○
At least four criteria are rated Exemplary, and all criteria are rated High or Exemplary.	All criteria are rated Satisfactory or higher, and at least four criteria are rated High or Exemplary.	At least six criteria are rated Satisfactory or higher, and only one may be rated Needs Improvement. The Principled criterion must be rated Satisfactory or above.	At least three criteria are rated Satisfactory or higher, and only four criteria may be rated Needs Improvement.	One or more criteria are rated Inadequate, or five or more criteria are rated Needs Improvement.

DECISION

- **APPROVE** – the project is of sufficient quality to be approved in its current form**.** Any management actions must be addressed in a timely manner.
- **APPROVE WITH QUALIFICATIONS** – the project has issues that must be addressed before the project document can be approved. Any management actions must be addressed in a timely manner.
- **DISAPPROVE** – the project has significant issues that should prevent the project from being approved as drafted.

RATING CRITERIA

For all questions, select the option that best reflects the project

STRATEGIC

1. Does the project specify how it will contribute to higher level change through linkage to the programme's Theory of Change?

- **3:** The project is clearly linked to the programme's theory of change. It has an explicit change pathway that explains how the project will contribute to outcome level change and why the project's strategy will likely lead to this change. This analysis is backed by credible evidence of what works effectively in this context and includes assumptions and risks.
- **2:** The project is clearly linked to the programme's theory of change. It has a change pathway that explains how the project will contribute to outcome-level change and why the project strategy will likely lead to this change.
- **1:** The project docFument may describe in generic terms how the project will contribute to development results, without an explicit link to the programme's theory of change.

**Note: Projects not contributing to a programme must have a project-specific Theory of Change. See alternative question under the lightbulb for these cases.*

3 | **2** | 1

Evidence

The TOC outlines the need for support for prefab structures and equipment for the restoration and improvement of the disrupted public service and the improved capacity of local governments on disaster risk preparedness and governance mechanism will facilitate effective recovery and coordination by the local government. It also outlines that improved livelihood opportunities will better equip the vulnerable and marginalized communities to rebuild their lives and improved their capacity from future shock. Thus, the Project is expected to significantly impact the institutionalization of effective and improved urban and earthquake preparedness and response systems are effective at province and local level through risk-informed planning and gender-responsive policies and enhanced capacities of all three tiers of the government on improved disaster risk management aligned with UNDP's CPD Outcome 3 and with the UNDP's Strategic Plan 3.1 & 3.2. (Refer Pg. 5)

2. Is the project aligned with the UNDP Strategic Plan?

3 | 2 | 1

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• **3:** The project responds to at least one of the development settings as specified in the Strategic Plan[1] and adapts at least one Signature Solution[2]. The project's RRF includes all the relevant SP output indicators. *(all must be true)* • **2:** The project responds to at least one of the development settings as specified in the Strategic Plan[4]. The project's RRF includes at least one SP output indicator, if relevant. *(both must be true)* • **1:** The project responds to a partner's identified need, but this need falls outside of the UNDP Strategic Plan. Also select this option if none of the relevant SP indicators are included in the RRF.	**Evidence** The Project is in-line with UNDP's Strategic Plan (2022-2025) to support in building resilience through enhance of institutional capacity at Local Level and communities to respond to systematic uncertainty and risk. The Project's specifically supports the 'Resilience' signature solution that prioritizes risk-informed planning, gender-responsive policy and interventions and enhancing capacities of local governments on disaster risk management. The action contributes to the following SP Output indicators; 3.1 Institutional systems to manage multi-dimensional risks and shocks strengthened at regional, national and sub-national levels (IRRF 3.1) and SP Output Indicator 3.3 Risk informed and gender-responsive recovery solutions, including stabilization efforts and mine action, implemented at regional, national and sub-national levels (Refer: Pg 6 of Pro Doc)
3. Is the project linked to the programme outputs? (i.e., UNDAF Results Group Workplan/CPD, RPD or Strategic Plan IRRF for global projects/strategic interventions not part of a programme)	**Yes** / **No** The Project contributes to United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023-2027, priority area 3 prioritizes environmental sustainability, climate, and disaster resilience and directly responds to the following key Output indicators of Outcome 3; 3.1.2. Number of local governments implementing electronic building permit systems, climate friendly, resilient (infrastructure) guidelines and (health) waste management initiatives (IRRF-3.1.1) Baseline (2021): 17 | Targets (2027): 34 3.2.3. Number of federal, provincial and local governments integrating climate-change adaptation responding to gender equality and social inclusion in plans based on NPC mainstreaming guideline (2019) (IRRF-4.2.1) Baseline (2022): 280 | Target (2027): 424 (Refer: Pg 6 of Pro Doc; Pg 15: Result Framework)
RELEVANT	
4. Does the project target groups left furthest behind?	3 / **2** / 1

[1] The three development settings in UNDP's 2018-2021 Strategic Plan are: a) Eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions; b) Accelerate structural transformations for sustainable development; and c) Build resilience to shocks and crises

[2] The six Signature Solutions of UNDP's 2018-2021 Strategic Plan are: a) Keeping people out of poverty; b) Strengthen effective, inclusive and accountable governance; c) Enhance national prevention and recovery capacities for resilient societies; d) Promote nature based solutions for a sustainable planet; e) Close the energy gap; and f) Strengthen gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

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• **3:** The target groups are clearly specified, prioritising discriminated and marginalized groups left furthest behind, identified through a rigorous process based on evidence. • **2:** The target groups are clearly specified, prioritizing groups left furthest behind. • **1:** The target groups are not clearly specified. *Note: Management Action must be taken for a score of 1. *Projects that build institutional capacity should still identify targeted groups to justify support*	Evidence The project is based on our earlier engagement under the early recovery support post-Jajarkot earthquake in 2023 in the said municipalities. Thus, the Project has been designed based on consultations with local government and communities and specifically targets communities engaged in informal sectors and those affected directly and indirectly by the earthquake. During inception phase, the Project will ensure close coordination and consultation with the affected communities particularly women, people living with disability and people belonging to particularly occupational caster as ironsmith and tailors to address their specific needs.
5. Have knowledge, good practices, and past lessons learned of UNDP and others informed the project design? • **3:** Knowledge and lessons learned backed by credible evidence from sources such as evaluation, corporate policies/strategies, and/or monitoring have been explicitly used, with appropriate referencing, to justify the approach used by the project. • **2:** The project design mentions knowledge and lessons learned backed by evidence/sources, but have not been used to justify the approach selected. • **1:** There is little or no mention of knowledge and lessons learned informing the project design. Any references made are anecdotal and not backed by evidence. *Note: Management Action or strong management justification must be given for a score of 1	**3** 2 1 Evidence The Project has been designed building on past early recovery and disaster preparedness support by UNDP in the Province immediately after the Jajarkot earthquake that focused on supporting for livelihoods recovery of the communities affected by the earthquake and enhancing risk mitigation and disaster preparedness to avert future disaster risks. UNDP will leverage its knowledge and extensive experience gained from past and on-going projects in Karnali province and in other parts of the country related to livelihoods recovery, community infrastructure development, and strengthening capacities of the local governments for disaster preparedness and long-term recovery and reconstruction during implementation of the Project. Further UNDP as co-lead of the Early Recovery Cluster at federal level and at province levels including in Karnali and having been substantively engaged in the post-Gorkha Earthquake recovery and reconstruction, will play an important role in transitioning from early recovery actions to long-term recovery and reconstruction led by the local governments. In addition, the support for local governments also stems from the scaling up best practices and lesson learned on improved disaster risk governance from SUPER Project.
6. Does UNDP have a clear advantage to engage in the role envisioned by the project vis-à-vis national/regional/global partners and other actors? • **3:** An analysis has been conducted on the role of other partners in the area where the project intends to work, and credible evidence supports the proposed engagement of UNDP and partners through the project, including identification of potential funding partners. It is clear how results achieved by partners will complement the project's intended results and a communication strategy is in place to communicate results and raise visibility vis-à-vis key partners. Options for south-south and triangular	**3** **2** 1 **Evidence** The Project is a scale-up of UNDP's earlier support for livelihood recovery post-Jajarkot earthquake to support the most vulnerable and marginalized communities whose livelihoods have been disrupted by the earthquake. In view of the short timeline of implementation, the Project will partner with UN-Habitat as a responsible party to

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cooperation have been considered, as appropriate. *(all must be true)* • **2:** Some analysis has been conducted on the role of other partners in the area where the project intends to work, and relatively limited evidence supports the proposed engagement of and division of labour between UNDP and partners through the project, with unclear funding and communications strategies or plans. • **1:** No clear analysis has been conducted on the role of other partners in the area that the project intends to work. There is risk that the project overlaps and/or does not coordinate with partners' interventions in this area. Options for south-south and triangular cooperation have not been considered, despite its potential relevance. *Note: Management Action or strong management justification must be given for a score of 1	support on the construction work including prefab structures, community infrastructures and community facility centers. Engagement of technical expertise for construction of cold storage facility and psychosocial counselling work will implemented by a third party for efficiency while technical staffs from SUPER and RERAS will provide oversight on the relevant areas of LGs capacity building. 5 UNVs will be stationed in each municipalities to facilitate ownership and buy-in by the LGs.
PRINCIPLED	
7. Does the project apply a human rights-based approach? • **3:** The project is guided by human rights and incorporates the principles of accountability, meaningful participation, and non-discrimination in the project's strategy. The project upholds the relevant international and national laws and standards. Any potential adverse impacts on enjoyment of human rights were rigorously identified and assessed as relevant, with appropriate mitigation and management measures incorporated into project design and budget. *(all must be true)* • **2:** The project is guided by human rights by prioritizing accountability, meaningful participation and non-discrimination. Potential adverse impacts on enjoyment of human rights were identified and assessed as relevant, and appropriate mitigation and management measures incorporated into the project design and budget. *(both must be true)* • **1:** No evidence that the project is guided by human rights. Limited or no evidence that potential adverse impacts on enjoyment of human rights were considered. *Note: Management action or strong management justification must be given for a score of 1	**3** **2** **1** **Evidence** The project is based on a needs assessment at the provincial and municipal levels that has put special emphasis on assessing the specific needs of especially vulnerable and marginalized groups, including youth, women, disabled, dalits and other marginalized people. The construction of prefab structures is aimed for operationalization and access to basic services (police stations, health posts, agriculture office, health department) that was impeded by the earthquake. This is particularly important in respecting the rights of the people especially following a serious natural disaster (i.e. Jajarkot Earthquake and its disastrous impact on the livelihoods and structures of the people) - the earlier and more effective these services are restored through provisions of alternative buildings for the service providers, the more the rights of the people will be respected and lives saved. Similarly, the community-led reconstruction of damaged small infrastructures such as watermills, irrigation canals, common facility centers, cold storage, which will both restore access to crucial infrastructure for livelihoods and economic resilience and support the existing income of vulnerable communities through community employment. The project also provisions for psychosocial support to affected communities including children, which will help tackle the post-earthquake trauma.
8. Does the project use gender analysis in the project design?	**3** **2** 1

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• **3:** A participatory gender analysis has been conducted and results from this gender analysis inform the development challenge, strategy and expected results sections of the project document. Outputs and indicators of the results framework include explicit references to gender equality, and specific indicators measure and monitor results to ensure women are fully benefitting from the project. *(all must be true)* • **2:** A basic gender analysis has been carried out and results from this analysis are scattered (i.e., fragmented and not consistent) across the development challenge and strategy sections of the project document. The results framework may include some gender sensitive outputs and/or activities but gender inequalities are not consistently integrated across each output. *(all must be true)* • **1:** The project design may or may not mention information and/or data on the differential impact of the project's development situation on gender relations, women and men, but the gender inequalities have not been clearly identified and reflected in the project document. *Note: Management Action or strong management justification must be given for a score of 1	**Evidence** An initial Gender and Social Inclusion analysis will be prepared for the Project that takes stock of the needs of women, youths, socially excluded groups and people with disabilities through a rapid assessment processes. During the inception period, the project will initiate a through GESI analysis and apply GESI lens in the design and execution of all activities as well as preparation of action monitoring framework to ensure meaningful participation and undertaking of Gender Audits for informed advocacy activities. The PRF targets includes engagement of women and most vulnerable groups and outlines beneficiaries at 30% for the project activities.
9. Did the project support the resilience and sustainability of societies and/or ecosystems? • **3:** Credible evidence that the project addresses sustainability and resilience dimensions of development challenges, which are integrated in the project strategy and design. The project reflects the interconnections between the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. Relevant shocks, hazards and adverse social and environmental impacts have been identified and rigorously assessed with appropriate management and mitigation measures incorporated into project design and budget. *(all must be true)*. • **2:** The project design integrates sustainability and resilience dimensions of development challenges. Relevant shocks, hazards and adverse social and environmental impacts have been identified and assessed, and relevant management and mitigation measures incorporated into project design and budget. *(both must be true)* • **1:** Sustainability and resilience dimensions and impacts were not adequately considered. *Note: Management action or strong management justification must be given for a score of 1	**3** / **2** / 1 **Evidence** The project addresses sustainability in disaster risk management by working with both communities and authorities to improve disaster risk management in the local context by improving emergency preparedness response capacities and mechanism and response procedures and facilitate effective basic service delivery with construction of pre-fabs and community infrastructure. The project also takes account of the urgency to support for recovery efforts and enhance resilience of women and marginalized groups from future shocks such as earthquakes and fire hazards.
10. Has the Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) been conducted to identify potential social and environmental impacts and risks? The SESP is not required for projects in which UNDP is Administrative Agent only and/or projects comprised solely of reports, coordination of events, trainings, workshops, meetings, conferences and/or communication materials and information dissemination. [if yes, upload the completed checklist. If SESP is not required, provide the reason for the exemption in the evidence section.]	**Yes** / No Yes. The SESP has been conducted during the design phase with an overall rating of 'Moderate' with a detailed Environmental Safeguard Management Plan (ESMP) identified in view of the construction activities proposed on the ground. However, a detailed SESP will be undertaken for all construction work activities i.e. pre-fab support, construction of Community Facility Centers, small scale community infrastructures and cold storage. A

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	GRM will also need to be setup to facilitated for the project. Refer: SESP
MANAGEMENT & MONITORING	
11. Does the project have a strong results framework? • **3:** The project's selection of outputs and activities are at an appropriate level. Outputs are accompanied by SMART, results-oriented indicators that measure the key expected development changes, each with credible data sources and populated baselines and targets, including gender sensitive, target group focused, sex-disaggregated indicators where appropriate. *(all must be true)* • **2:** The project's selection of outputs and activities are at an appropriate level. Outputs are accompanied by SMART, results-oriented indicators, but baselines, targets and data sources may not yet be fully specified. Some use of target group focused, sex-disaggregated indicators, as appropriate. *(all must be true)* • **1:** The project's selection of outputs and activities are not at an appropriate level; outputs are not accompanied by SMART, results-oriented indicators that measure the expected change and have not been populated with baselines and targets; data sources are not specified, and/or no gender sensitive, sex-disaggregation of indicators. *(if any is true)* *Note: Management Action or strong management justification must be given for a score of 1	**3** / **2** / 1 **Evidence** The results framework has outputs and activities at an appropriate level, including results-oriented indicators with relevant data sources, baselines and target (gender-disaggregated) (Refer: PRF; Pg: 15)
12. Is the project's governance mechanism clearly defined in the project document, including composition of the project board? • **3:** The project's governance mechanism is fully defined. Individuals have been specified for each position in the governance mechanism (especially all members of the project board.) Project Board members have agreed on their roles and responsibilities as specified in the terms of reference. The ToR of the project board has been attached to the project document. *(all must be true)*. • **2:** The project's governance mechanism is defined; specific institutions are noted as holding key governance roles, but individuals may not have been specified yet. The project document lists the most important responsibilities of the project board, project director/manager and quality assurance roles. *(all must be true)* • **1:** The project's governance mechanism is loosely defined in the project document, only mentioning key roles that will need to be filled at a later date. No information on the responsibilities of key positions in the governance mechanism is provided. *Note: Management Action or strong management justification must be given for a score of 1	3 / **2** / 1 **Evidence** The project is implemented under the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) as defined under Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP) in close collaboration with NDRRMA, and relevant provincial and local governments of the project areas. The project implementation and management will be guided by the Grant Agreement signed between UNDP and Government of Japan. A Project Board has been setup chaired by UNDP Deputy Resident Representative with members including NDRRMA, MoFAGA along with MoLMAC of Karnali Province and will meet at least once a year. The TOR for the Board has been agreed with government counterparts with clear mandates and roles of board members.
13. Have the project risks been identified with clear plans stated to manage and mitigate each risk? • **3:** Project risks related to the achievement of results are fully described in the project risk log, based on comprehensive analysis drawing on the programme's theory of change, Social and Environmental Standards and screening, situation analysis, capacity assessments and other analysis such as funding potential and reputational risk. Risks have been identified through a consultative process with key internal and external stakeholders.	3 / **2** / 1 **Evidence** The offline Project Risk has been prepared that captures social and environmental, strategic, and operational risk along with responsible authority. The Risk Treatment actions have been proposed for the design process and

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Clear and complete plan in place to manage and mitigate each risk, reflected in project budgeting and monitoring plans. *(both must be true)* • **2:** Project risks related to the achievement of results are identified in the initial project risk log based on a minimum level of analysis and consultation, with mitigation measures identified for each risk. • **1:** Some risks may be identified in the initial project risk log, but no evidence of consultation or analysis and no clear risk mitigation measures identified. This option is also selected if risks are not clearly identified and/or no initial risk log is included with the project document. *Note: Management Action must be taken for a score of 1	will be tracked on quarterly basis by the Project and recorded in Quantum. Refer Risk Register
EFFICIENT	
14. Have specific measures for ensuring cost-efficient use of resources been explicitly mentioned as part of the project design? This can include, for example: i) using the theory of change analysis to explore different options of achieving the maximum results with the resources available; ii) using a portfolio management approach to improve cost effectiveness through synergies with other interventions; iii) through joint operations (e.g., monitoring or procurement) with other partners; iv) sharing resources or coordinating delivery with other projects, v) using innovative approaches and technologies to reduce the cost of service delivery or other types of interventions. *(Note: Evidence of at least one measure must be provided to answer yes for this question)*	**Yes (3)** | No (1) UNDP will mobilize technical, and operations support to provide quality assurance and smooth implementation of the project. UN Habitat will be contracted to support on the construction of pre-fab buildings, community facility centers and small scale community infrastructures in view of mobilizing their in-house technical expertise and quality assurance. Cost-efficiency will be ensured by i). cost-sharing with other projects particularly for support staffs i.e. Admin. Finance Officer, Communication, Driver and Early Recovery/Coordinator; ii). Consultancy fee based in line with the existing UN rates for consultants and on the basis of the market rates established during the implementation of prior projects and iii). Utilizing the Long-Term Agreement with hotels, travel and subsistence allowances and SES experts has also helped facilitate standardization and cost-efficiency. (Refer: Resource Mobilization and Multi-year work plan)
15. Is the budget justified and supported with valid estimates? • **3:** The project's budget is at the activity level with funding sources, and is specified for the duration of the project period in a multi-year budget. Realistic resource mobilisation plans are in place to fill unfunded components. Costs are supported with valid estimates using benchmarks from similar projects or activities. Cost implications from inflation and foreign exchange exposure have been estimated and incorporated in the budget. Adequate costs for monitoring, evaluation, communications and security have been incorporated. • **2:** The project's budget is at the activity level with funding sources, when possible, and is specified for the duration of the project in a multi-year budget, but no funding plan is in place. Costs are supported with valid estimates based on prevailing rates. • **1:** The project's budget is not specified at the activity level, and/or may not be captured in a multi-year budget.	3 | **2** | 1 **Evidence** The work plan with itemized costs has been prepared based on UN's existing rates and mandates for consultants, travels and in line with standardized rate for meeting/workshop. The cost is also based on prior financial reporting under SUPER, JSB project and early recovery work that facilitated support for construction of 5 pre-fab buildings as well as market rate established during the preparation of Long Term Agreements with hotels. (Refer: Resource Mobilization and Multi-year work plan)

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16. Is the Country Office/Regional Hub/Global Project fully recovering the costs involved with project implementation? • **3:** The budget fully covers all project costs that are attributable to the project, including programme management and development effectiveness services related to strategic country programme planning, quality assurance, pipeline development, policy advocacy services, finance, procurement, human resources, administration, issuance of contracts, security, travel, assets, general services, information and communications based on full costing in accordance with prevailing UNDP policies (i.e., UPL, LPL.) • **2:** The budget covers significant project costs that are attributable to the project based on prevailing UNDP policies (i.e., UPL, LPL) as relevant. • **1:** The budget does not adequately cover project costs that are attributable to the project, and UNDP is cross-subsidizing the project. *Note: Management Action must be given for a score of 1. The budget must be revised to fully reflect the costs of implementation before the project commences.	3	**2**
	1	
	Evidence Yes. In line with our policy, the cost recovery for the Project with Govt. of Japan is agreed at 8% and the Direct Enabling Service (DES) cost levied at 4%. The rate for consultant is proposed in line with the agreed standard for UN consultancy fee (2017) while all cost of travel and subsistence costs are in line with our UN's standard policies. UNDP CO will mobilize additional US$ 80,000 to cover programmatic and operational costs.	
EFFECTIVE		
17. Have targeted groups been engaged in the design of the project? • 3: Credible evidence that all targeted groups, prioritising discriminated and marginalized populations that will be involved in or affected by the project, have been actively engaged in the design of the project. The project has an explicit strategy to identify, engage and ensure the meaningful participation of target groups as stakeholders throughout the project, including through monitoring and decision-making (e.g., representation on the project board, inclusion in samples for evaluations, etc.) • 2: Some evidence that key targeted groups have been consulted in the design of the project. • 1: No evidence of engagement with targeted groups during project design.	3	**2**
	1	
	Evidence The Project has undertaken initial consultation and consultative dialogues to identify the needs of women, girls, socially excluded groups and persons with disabilities. This has been well documented during consultation with the government counterparts, project partners and organizations working with socially excluded groups and persons with disabilities.	
18. Does the project plan for adaptation and course correction if regular monitoring activities, evaluation, and lesson learned demonstrate there are better approaches to achieve the intended results and/or circumstances change during implementation?	**Yes (3)**	No (1)
	Evidence The Project has been designed on the basis of consultation with the government counterparts in line with the earlier support from UNDP on early recovery work post-Jajarkot earthquake. The site selection will be finalized based on rapid assessment and technical assessment of the buildings as well as consultation with NDRRMA and local government to ensure alignment with government priorities. The Project M&E Plan will include joint monitoring with government and key stakeholders to ensure the intended results are achieved. Donor coordination meeting will be organized mid-way of implementation to take stock of implementation. Any adjustments will be submitted for clearance by the GoJ with the approval by the Project Board.	
	Yes (3)	No (1)

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19. The gender marker for all project outputs are scored at GEN2 or GEN3, indicating that gender has been fully mainstreamed into all project outputs at a minimum. *Note: Management Action or strong management justification must be given for a score of "no"	**Evidence** The project is proposed for GEN 2 in view of the Project's aim at helping communities recovering from the earthquake and will specifically target women and the most vulnerable households, including marginalized groups, throughout its activities. For the purpose, the project will prepare and mainstream a Gender Action Plan that shall include provisions for prioritized employment for women, offer equal wages with men and women-friendly working environment (e.g. provisions for room for lactating mothers etc.), with trained human resource provisions to assure safe working environment free from harassment and Gender-based Violence (GBV). Gender equality will be achieved, and women's empowerment will be promoted at all stages of project development including preparatory works and construction phases. This will be done by ensuring respectable participation of women and marginalized community members in consultation meetings and decision-making processes.
20. Have societal digital risks and opportunities been taken into account when designing the project's approach and have digital or data technology solutions been considered to enhance the efficiency, effectiveness and scalability of project results? • **3:** To the extent possible, societal digital risks and opportunities have been investigated when designing the strategy and Theory of Change, and the potential use of digital or data technologies in project activities has been considered in line with UNDP's digital standards and data principles. (All must be true) • **2:** Only the potential use of digital or data solutions in project activities has been considered in line with UNDP's digital standards and data principles, but there is no or limited evidence that aspects of inclusive digital societies have been considered in the design of the strategy or Theory of Change. • **1:** Neither societal digital risks and opportunities, nor digital or data technology solutions were specifically considered in the project design or, UNDP's digital standards and data principles are not taken into account when intending to use digital or data technology solutions in project activities. • Digital considerations are not relevant to this project. *Applicable only to option "Digital considerations are not relevant" • 1: Societal digital transformation is not a government or contextual priority • 2: A non-digital approach yields higher effectiveness and efficiency3: Other (specify in the "Evidence" section) *Note: Risk management must be done for criteria with score of 1**.**	**1** **2** **3** **EVIDENCE** The project will share with the community and the local governments, the experience of implementing similar initiatives outside the project area supported by UNDP through digital platforms. Particularly experience on construction of community infrastructures, setting-up of pre-fab structures and capacity building for disaster preparedness, and measures adopted to sustain those structures and mechanism in the long-run will be important for this project. The platform can also be used for live discussions between the communities and the local governments. The digital solutions for strengthening disaster preparedness and response will be achieved through localisation of existing government of Nepal'sportal BIPAD. The portal hosts data related to disasters and also live status of a few disasters. The monitor for disaster strategic action (MDSA) portal, which is geared to track disaster risk reduction and management (DRM) interventions in Nepal using the framework of the national strategic plan of action (2018-2030) will be customised to add features. It will help in tracking progress against the Sendai framework of drr and undrr gender action plan for Sendai Framework.
SUSTAINABILITY & NATIONAL OWNERSHIP	
	3 **2**

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21. Have national/regional/global partners led, or proactively engaged in, the design of the project? • **3:** National partners (or regional/global partners for regional and global projects) have full ownership of the project and led the process of the development of the project jointly with UNDP. • **2:** The project has been developed by UNDP in close consultation with national/regional/global partners. • **1:** The project has been developed by UNDP with limited or no engagement with national partners.	1 **Evidence** Project was developed by UNDP through full engagement of national, provincial and local authorities particularly NDRRMA, MoFAGA and the local governments.
22. Are key institutions and systems identified, and is there a strategy for strengthening specific/ comprehensive capacities based on capacity assessments conducted? • **3:** The project has a strategy for strengthening specific capacities of national institutions and/or actors based on a completed capacity assessment. This strategy includes an approach to regularly monitor national capacities using clear indicators and rigorous methods of data collection, and adjust the strategy to strengthen national capacities accordingly. • **2:** A capacity assessment has been completed. There are plans to develop a strategy to strengthen specific capacities of national institutions and/or actors based on the results of the capacity assessment. • **1:** Capacity assessments have not been carried out.	**3** | 2 1 **Evidence** The Project will engage UN-Habitat as a responsible party to support on the pre-fab construction, community facility centers and small scale community infrastructures. For livelihood resilience intervention, engagement of CSO as responsible party will be prioritized and the necessary micro-assessment and partner assessment will be undertaken.
23. Is there is a clear strategy embedded in the project specifying how the project will use national systems (i.e., procurement, monitoring, evaluations, etc.,) to the extent possible?	**Yes (3)** | No (1) **Evidence** As a DIM Project, all procurements will be done by UNDP in line with our procurement policy guided by the Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP). The Project has i). mapped out clear resource requirement for mobilization of technical and operations including human resources, experts required, grants arrangements, trainings/workshops and ii). clear costed monitoring & evaluation plan for programmatic components and to meet the reporting requirements.
24. Is there a clear transition arrangement/ phase-out plan developed with key stakeholders in order to sustain or scale up results (including resource mobilisation and communications strategy)?	**Yes (3)** | No (1) **Evidence** The sustainability and scale-up plan through i). maintaining regular dialogue on implementation strategy with NDRRMA, MoAFAGA and Provincial governments and engagement with elected officials and provincial training institutions; ii). Engaging municipal and provincial government on policy discussions to ensure strategic alignment of policies, plans and response frameworks; iii). Evidence based policy discussions with provincial and local governments. (Refer Sustainability & Scale-up in Pro Doc).

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Social and Environmental Screening Template (2021 SESP Template, Version 1)

The completed template, which constitutes the Social and Environmental Screening Report, must be included as an annex to the Project Document at the design stage. Note: this template will be converted into an online tool. The online version will guide users through the process and will embed relevant guidance.

Project Information

Project Information	
1. Project Title	**Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the areas affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake (LIDRE)**
2. Project Number (i.e. Atlas project ID, PIMS+)	**01004107**
3. Location (Global/Region/Country)	Jajarkot, Rukum West, Nepal
4. Project stage (Design or Implementation)	Design
5. Date	10/02/2025

Part A. Integrating Programming Principles to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability

QUESTION 1: How Does the Project Integrate the Programming Principles in Order to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability?
Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams the human rights-based approach

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This Project is primarily focused on early recovery and disaster preparedness intervention: the proposed interventions will all help communities recovering from the Jajarkot earthquake.

1. Among its key interventions is the replacement or upgrading of damaged office equipment and construction of prefab structure facilities relevant to the delivery of basic services (police stations, health posts, agriculture office, health department) that was impeded by the earthquake. The project is designed to provide continuous and effective services by the local government so that the citizens/local inhabitants have access to agricultural and health services, as well as opportunity to express or report any security issues or incidents. This is particularly important in respecting the rights of the people especially following a serious natural disaster (i.e. Jajarkot Earthquake and its disastrous impact on the livelihoods and structures of the people) - the earlier and more effective these services are restored through provisions of alternative buildings for the service providers, the more the rights of the people will be respected and lives saved.
2. Another key intervention is the community-led reconstruction of damaged small infrastructures such as watermills, irrigation canals, common facility centers, cold storage, which will both restore access to crucial infrastructure for livelihoods and economic resilience and support the existing income of vulnerable communities through community employment. Directly linked to the human-rights based approach is also the provision of psychosocial support to affected communities including children, which will help tackle the post-earthquake trauma.
3. The project will also strengthen capacities for emergency preparedness and response, which will ensure enhanced resilience against future disasters.
4. Finally, the Project will ensure close coordination and consultation with affected communities and people, ensuring their specific needs are prioritized. The project will include an assessment of priority needs to create facilities. It will promote inclusivity by considering the needs and perspectives of diverse groups including Indigenous Peoples (IP), and persons with disabilities (PWDs) living in the vicinities during the construction of prefabricated structures and reconstruction of infrastructure. It will also specifically target women and the most vulnerable households including marginalized groups.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project is likely to improve gender equality and women's empowerment

5. The project aims at helping communities recovering from the earthquake and will specifically target women and the most vulnerable households, including marginalized groups, throughout its activities.
6. The infrastructure reconstructed will directly improve the lives of women. As for an example, the water mills are expected to minimize women's drudgery.
7. The project will prepare and mainstream a Gender Action Plan that shall include provisions for prioritized employment for women, offer equal wages with men and women-friendly working environment (e.g. provisions for room for lactating mothers etc.), with trained human resource provisions to assure safe working environment free from harassment and Gender-based Violence (GBV).
8. Gender equality will be achieved, and women's empowerment will be promoted at all stages of project development including preparatory works and construction phases. This will be done by ensuring respectable participation of women and marginalized community members in consultation meetings and decision-making processes.
9. Local government representatives and relevant workers (police officers, health care practitioners, agriculture development officers) sill enable, with appropriate measures in place and a monitoring system, equal opportunities for male and female workers and wage-earning labor based on their skills and capacities in decision making and during the prefab construction and infrastructure reconstruction.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams sustainability and resilience

10. The project aims at a) enhancing capacities of earthquake-affected local governments for effective basic service delivery, reconstruction, and long-term resilience; b) strengthen sustainable and resilient livelihoods of earthquake affected people and communities; c) enhancing capacity of local governments on emergency preparedness and response through improved plans/procedures, response equipment and response facilities. The project will thus support the communities' long-term resilience to future disasters, as well as, on a shorter term, the existing income of vulnerable communities, helping in building economic resilience.

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11. The project will include an assessment of priority needs to create facilities, as well as a social and environmental screening of sites for setting up prefabs. The selection of facilities for prefab support was based on field visits by UNDP and consultation with the local governments, in which government officials articulated their needs.
12. The project includes the distribution of beehive equipment. Beehive promotion is important in these high-altitude areas as honey produced is of high quality due to altitude and vegetation. In the targeted areas, some of the communities are aware of the know-how of bee keeping, which will help ensuring the sustainability of the intervention.
13. The Project will actively collaborate with existing development programs at the municipal, district, and provincial levels, ensuring a strategic alignment that prevents duplication and enhances synergy for effective earthquake recovery and long-term resilience. The project will work closely with NDRRMA to facilitate support in prioritizing the prefab structures construction and handover. For livelihood components, the local government will be engaged in all stages to identify appropriate locations for the installation of the Community Facilitate Centers (CFS) and Cold Storage Facilities and prioritizing complementarity to their existing support to farmers groups and/or cooperatives. For sustainability purpose, the project will not seek in establishing new institutional arrangements to implement the activities.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project strengthens accountability to stakeholders

14. The design and implementation of this project will help to strengthen the accountability of the local governments to the key stakeholders i.e. the citizens and inhabitants, through a) the provision of effective and sustained services (police, agricultural development, health) and b) enhanced capacity and mechanisms for emergency preparedness and response.
15. The projects' implementing agencies will ensure the provision of a Grievance Collection Mechanism/ Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) and make provisions for its awareness and process for its use. Any person who feels adversely impacted by the projects will be aware of the procedure to follow to lodge a complaint to the project authorities or the Local Representative and expect fair action on the issue.
16. The communities and governments have been engaged and consulted in the selection of facilities for prefab support, and in different stages of project cycle: initiation, need assessment and design. Throughout the Project development, and continuing throughout implementation, the Project will ensure close coordination and consultation with affected communities and people.
17. The project will be managed by UNDP under the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) guided by UNDP's standard programme and operational policy and guidelines. UNDP will be responsible for project finance management and reporting to donors as per UNDP policy, assuring quality of project results, managing project risks and ensuring achievements of project outcomes. A Project Board chaired by UNDP Deputy Resident Representative (DRR) with members from NDRRMA, MoAFAGA and representatives from Karnali and Sudur Paschim provincial governments as the highest governance mechanism for quality assurance and oversight of project management. The Project Board will be responsible for review of project performance based on monitoring, evaluation, and reporting, including progress reports, risk logs and the combined delivery report. The Project Board is responsible for making management decisions to ensure best value money, fairness, timeliness, integrity, transparency, and effectiveness.

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Part B. Identifying and Managing Social and Environmental Risks

QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks? *Note: Complete SESP Attachment 1 before responding to Question 2.*	**QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks?** *Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5below before proceeding to Question 5*			**QUESTION 6: Describe the assessment and management measures for each risk rated Moderate, Substantial or High**
Risk Description (broken down by event, cause, impact)	***Impact and Likelihood (1-5)***	***Significance (Low, Moderate Substantial, High)***	***Comments (optional)***	***Description of assessment and management measures for risks rated as Moderate, Substantial or High***
Risk 1: There is a risk that the local governments do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the project. Cause: There might be a lack of awareness or capacity on the matter, in addition to little budget and potential disasters leading to reprioritization. Impact: This may result in a lack of ownership at the policy level, and a delay in the operations and management budget creation by municipalities Related risk: P.2	I= 2 L= 3	Moderate	Linked to ERP activities	**Assessment Measure:** • The project will undertake a stock take and mapping of the key stakeholders and direct beneficiaries. This pre-feasibility assessment will help to identify the capacity of the local governments, prioritize engagement of the stakeholders and facilitate for effective coordination on the ground. **Management Measures:** • A stakeholder engagement plan will be prepared to facilitate; ○ Close stakeholder engagement with local governments will, through UNDP's already existing work in the affected areas through multiple initiatives; ○ Arrangement of areas of complementarity and coordination; ○ Dialogues conducted to engage stakeholders and maintain their expectations;

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Risk 2: There is a risk that women workers may face discrimination like unequal pay and gender-based violence like harassment during the construction and reconstruction work
 	
Cause: Limited consideration of the needs for women due to the lack of capacities and knowledge on best practices.
 	
Impact: This may reproduce the discrimination against women based on gender
 	
Related risks: P.8, P.10, 3.1, 7.5
	I=3
	L=1
		Low	Linked to prefab and other infrastructure construction works	**Assessment Measure:**
				• The project will monitor the representation of women in consultations
				• A detailed SESP assessment will be carried out for each construction project i.e. sub-project
				
				Management Measures:
				• A Gender Action Plan will be developed and implemented which will include provisions to;
				  • Ensure equal opportunities and equitable pay for men and women in construction activities
				  • Ensure equal participation of women in any consultation work and decision-making activities
				  • Ensure grievances collected through the Grievance collection mechanism set up will be handled promptly.

Risk 3: The role of women and potentially affected stakeholders (including marginalized groups, IPs) in ERP, and the impact of disasters on them may not be adequately considered and may perpetuate existing discriminations Cause: Limited consideration of the needs for women and marginalized communities due to the lack of capacities and knowledge on best practices. Impact: This may reproduce existing discriminations, in emergency preparedness and response and in the psychosocial support activities Related risks: P.8, P.10, P.13, P.14, 6.1	I=3 L=1	Low	Linked to ERP Activities and consultations	**Assessment Measure:** • The stakeholder engagement assessment will help map the target beneficiaries including youths, women and marginalized communities in the project site. • The project will monitor the representation of women and diverse stakeholder groups IPs in consultations, and psychosocial support activities. **Management Measures:** • The stakeholder engagement plan will outline a strategy to identify and prioritize the vulnerable and marginalized groups in the thematic area of engagement. • A Gender Action Plan will be developed and implemented accordingly.

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Risk 4: There is risk of low considerations to incorporate expressed needs of the IP (if any were made in consultations) and the known access needs of PWDs during the construction of prefab structures Cause: Limited consideration of the needs for IPs and PwD due to the lack of capacities and knowledge on best practices. Impact: This may prevent smooth access to services provided in the structures (e.g health, police) for these communities Related checklist items: P.13, P.14, 3.1	I = 2 L = 2	Low	Linked to prefab construction works	**Assessment Measure:** • An SES assessment will be carried out for each construction project. • The stakeholder engagement assessment will help map the target beneficiaries including youths, women and marginalized communities in the project site. **Management Measure:** • An engagement plan will be prepared under the GAP to ensure that the building design incorporates accessibility for all beneficiaries. Access to the building for services by PWDs should be respected with necessary design measures (e.g. accessible approach roads, ramps, toilets etc.) added to the service structures.
Risk 5: There is a risk of adverse impact on soils linked to construction work Cause: The construction works will need extraction work, which might be done improperly Impact: This can lead to landslides, and soil destabilization Related risks: 1.7, 3.1	I=3 L=2	*Moderate*	Linked to prefab and infrastructure construction works	**Assessment Measure:** • A detailed SESP assessment will be carried out for each construction activity to ensure the potential risks from multi-hazards. **Management Measure:** • Following that project-specific SES assessment, the construction projects should implement all necessary measures to ensure that the impacts on soils linked to extraction are minimized • All the structures constructed should full take account of the potential hazards in the location and ensure it is constructed in stable area with design elements to withstand multi-hazard risks.
Risk 6: There is risk of an earthquake or climate-related disaster (flood, landslide) Cause: The project area and Nepal in general are highly vulnerable to	I = 3 L = 3	Moderate	Linked to prefab and infrastructure construction works	**Assessment Measure:** • A detailed SESP assessment will be carried out for each construction activity to ensure the potential risks from multi-hazards. **Management Measure:**

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earthquakes, climate change and flood hazards. Impact: The disaster may affect populations and cause a reprioritization of the local government's action. Damage to the built infrastructure and prefab may further impede the access of the local communities to enhanced livelihoods and crucial services. Related risks: 2.1, 2.2, 3.1				• All the structures constructed should full take account of the potential hazards in the location and ensure it is constructed in stable area with design elements to withstand multi-hazard risks. • Establish accessible channels for feedback and addressing grievances, and continuously monitor for inequities to make necessary adjustments.
Risk 7: There is risk of erosion and dust pollution from excavated earth during the construction processes. Cause: The excavated soil from the prefabricated building base and dust blown from the vehicles might pollute nearby settlements. Impact: The construction work may affect populations and settlements Related checklist items: 3.1, 3.2,	I = 3 L = 3	Moderate	Linked to prefab and infrastructure construction works	**Assessment Measure:** • A Grievance Collection Mechanism will be set up. • An SES assessment will be carried out for each construction project **Management Measure:** • The construction projects should implement temporary measures to contain the soil to prevent it from being blown away by the wind or flow with runoff when it rains. • Vehicles carrying construction materials like sand, gravel etc. should be covered properly and placed in a safe location away from the settlements or placed in such a way that its effects are minimized.

Risk 8: There is a risk of unwanted accidents of workers and stakeholders or failure of buildings or infrastructure.
 	
Cause: Unmanaged/unprotected storage of the construction materials, design failure or quality of the materials used
	I = 3
	L = 3
		Moderate	Linked to prefab and infrastructure construction works	**Assessment Measure:**
				• An SES assessment will be carried out for each construction project
				
				Management Measure:
				• Occupational Health & safety (OHS) plan will be developed and implemented which will include;
				  • Orientation shall be provided to all the workers at the beginning of the work on a daily basis.
				  • Appoint security officer by contractor
				  • The construction site should be covered with safety nets and signage of danger shall be installed.

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Impact: The construction works may cause physical damage to workers and stakeholders. Related risk: 3.1, 3.3				• Workers should be provided with necessary safety tools and stipulate materials in the first aid box. • Materials should be stored in safe areas, protected and signs posted during construction • The construction site must be fenced and enclosed. Construction activities should not be permitted during nighttime.
Risk 9: There might be conflict between project workers and the community. Cause: Potential influx of workers for the construction work. Impact: The construction of prefab buildings may attract conflict among workers and local communities. Related risks: 3.7, 3.8	I = 3 L = 2	Low	Linked to prefab construction works	**Assessment Measure:** • An SES assessment will be carried out for each construction project including consultation with stakeholders and beneficiaries near the proposed construction. • Gender Action Plan is in place and will be continuously monitored to avoid any unforeseen incidences. **Management Measure:** • In line with the project's target to support local livelihoods, the project will give priority to local people as workers to the extent possible for prefab structures. • Regular orientation and trainings organized for partners, vendors, and their staff to follow standard practices regarding SH/SEA Policy. • Other infrastructure reconstruction projects will also target local communities' employment, as specifically mentioned in the project's objectives. • A Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) for the project will be setup and the beneficiaries oriented periodically. Complaint box setup in the project sites for beneficiaries ease.
Risk 10: There is a risk of child labor associated with the construction projects Cause: The selected construction work vendors might employ children Impact: Child labor will have strong negative impacts on children employed Related risks: 3.1, 7.3	I=3 L=2	*Moderate*	Linked to prefab and infrastructure construction works	**Assessment Measure:** • An SES assessment will be carried out for each construction project, as well as monitoring and assessment visits **Management Measure:** • Project will ensure that specific provisions related to non-use of child labor during construction work will be ensured in the contract documents with the contractors .

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Risk 11: There may be occupational health and safety risks due to physical hazards.
 	
Cause: During the maintenance works, there will be handling, transportation, storage of construction materials and electro-mechanical equipment.
 	
Impact: Workers and community people may get injured while performing these activities.
 	
Related risks: 3.1, 3.3, 7.6
	I=3
	L=3
		Moderate	Linked to prefab and infrastructure construction works	**Assessment Measure:**
				• An SES assessment will be carried out for each construction project
				
				Management Measure:
				
				• Occupational Health & safety (OHS) plan will be developed and implemented which will include;
				  • Appointment of a security officer by contractor
				  • The construction site should be covered with safety nets and signage of danger shall be installed.
				  • Workers should be provided with necessary safety tools and stipulate materials in the first aid box.
				  • All workers should be provided with necessary safety tools (e.g. gloves, glasses, helmets etc.) and training in First Aid.
				  • First Aid Box should be compulsory in the construction site.

Risk 12: There is a risk that the vendor may not pay attention to proper management of the solid waste generated during the construction work. Cause: Hazardous waste and non-hazardous waste such as construction debris will be produced during the construction works. Impact: Improper disposal of the waste will cause environmental degradation in the area. Related risks: 3.1, 8.2	I=3 L=2	Low	Linked to prefab and infrastructure construction works	**Assessment Measure:** • An SES assessment will be carried out for each construction project **Management Measure:** • A waste management plan will be developed, and the selected vendors will have to implement it as part of their work plan.

QUESTION 4: What is the overall project risk categorization?

Low Risk	☐	
Moderate Risk	X	
Substantial Risk	☐	
High Risk	☐	

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	QUESTION 5: Based on the identified risks and risk categorization, what requirements of the SES are triggered? (check all that apply)				
	Question only required for Moderate, Substantial and High-Risk projects				
	Is assessment required? (check if "yes")	X			***Status? (completed, planned)***
	if yes, indicate overall type and status	X		Targeted assessment(s)	Stakeholders' consultations (completed and additional consultations are planned) Site specific SES assessment (planned)
			☐	ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment)	
			☐	SESA (Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment)	
	Are management plans required? (check if "yes)	X			
	If yes, indicate overall type	X		Targeted management plans (Gender Action Plan, Emergency Response Plan, Waste Management Plan)	Planned
				ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan which may include range of targeted plans)	
		X		ESMF (Environmental and Social Management Framework)	Planned. ESMF for sub-projects will be prepared in view of the non-confirmation of intervention locations.
	Based on identified risks, which Principles/Project-level Standards triggered?		**Comments (not required)**		
	Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind				
	Human Rights	X			
	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	X			
	Accountability	X			

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	1. Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management	X	
	2. Climate Change and Disaster Risks	X	
	3. Community Health, Safety and Security	X	
	4. Cultural Heritage	☐	
	5. Displacement and Resettlement	☐	
	6. Indigenous Peoples	X	
	7. Labour and Working Conditions	X	
	8. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	X	

Final Sign Off

Final Screening at the design-stage is not complete until the following signatures are included

Signature	***Date***	***Description***
QA Assessor		UNDP staff member responsible for the project, typically a UNDP Programme Officer. Final signature confirms they have "checked" to ensure that the SESP is adequately conducted.
QA Approver		UNDP senior manager, typically the UNDP Deputy Country Director (DCD), Country Director (CD), Deputy Resident Representative (DRR), or Resident Representative (RR). The QA Approver cannot also be the QA Assessor. Final signature confirms they have "cleared" the SESP prior to submittal to the PAC.
PAC Chair		UNDP chair of the PAC. In some cases, PAC Chair may also be the QA Approver. Final signature confirms that the SESP was considered as part of the project appraisal and considered in recommendations of the PAC.

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SESP Attachment 1. Social and Environmental Risk Screening Checklist

Checklist Potential Social and Environmental Risks		
INSTRUCTIONS: The risk screening checklist will assist in answering Questions 2-6 of the Screening Template. Answers to the checklist questions help to (1) identify potential risks, (2) determine the overall risk categorization of the project, and (3) determine required level of assessment and management measures. Refer to the SES toolkit for further guidance on addressing screening questions.		
Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind **Human Rights**		**Answer (Yes/No)**
P.1	Have local communities or individuals raised human rights concerns regarding the project (e.g. during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)?	*No*
P.2	Is there a risk that duty-bearers (e.g. government agencies) do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the project?	*Yes*
P.3	Is there a risk that rights-holders (e.g. project-affected persons) do not have the capacity to claim their rights?	*No*
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
P.4	adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights (civil, political, economic, social or cultural) of the affected population and particularly of marginalized groups?	No
P.5	inequitable or discriminatory impacts on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities?[1]	No
P.6	restrictions in availability, quality of and/or access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities?	No
P.7	exacerbation of conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to project-affected communities and individuals?	No
Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment		
P.8	Have women's groups/leaders raised gender equality concerns regarding the project, (e.g. during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)?	Yes
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
P.9	adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls?	*No*
P.10	reproducing discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits?	Yes
P.11	limitations on women's ability to use, develop and protect natural resources, taking into account different roles and positions of women and men in accessing environmental goods and services? *For example, activities that could lead to natural resources degradation or depletion in communities who depend on these resources for their livelihoods and well being*	No
P.12	exacerbation of risks of gender-based violence? *For example, through the influx of workers to a community, changes in community and household power dynamics, increased exposure to unsafe public places and/or transport, etc*.	No
Sustainability and Resilience: Screening questions regarding risks associated with sustainability and resilience are encompassed by the Standard-specific questions below		

[1] Prohibited grounds of discrimination include race, ethnicity, sex, age, language, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, political or other opinion, national or social or geographical origin, property, birth or other status including as an indigenous person or as a member of a minority. References to "women and men" or similar is understood to include women and men, boys and girls, and other groups discriminated against based on their gender identities, such as transgender and transsexual people.

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Accountability		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
P.13	exclusion of any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups and excluded individuals (including persons with disabilities), from fully participating in decisions that may affect them?	Yes
P.14	grievances or objections from potentially affected stakeholders?	Yes
P.15	risks of retaliation or reprisals against stakeholders who express concerns or grievances, or who seek to participate in or to obtain information on the project?	No
Project-Level Standards		
Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
1.1	adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural, and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services? *For example, through habitat loss, conversion or degradation, fragmentation, hydrological changes*	No
1.2	activities within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including (but not limited to) legally protected areas (e.g. nature reserve, national park), areas proposed for protection, or recognized as such by authoritative sources and/or indigenous peoples or local communities?	No
1.3	changes to the use of lands and resources that may have adverse impacts on habitats, ecosystems, and/or livelihoods? (Note: if restrictions and/or limitations of access to lands would apply, refer to Standard 5)	No
1.4	risks to endangered species (e.g. reduction, encroachment on habitat)?	No
1.5	exacerbation of illegal wildlife trade?	No
1.6	introduction of invasive alien species?	No
1.7	adverse impacts on soils?	Yes
1.8	harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation?	No
1.9	significant agricultural production?	No
1.10	animal husbandry or harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species?	No
1.11	significant extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water? *For example, construction of dams, reservoirs, river basin developments, groundwater extraction*	No
1.12	handling or utilization of genetically modified organisms/living modified organisms?[2]	No
1.13	utilization of genetic resources? (e.g. collection and/or harvesting, commercial development)[3]	No
1.14	adverse transboundary or global environmental concerns?	No
Standard 2: Climate Change and Disaster Risks		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
2.1	areas subject to hazards such as earthquakes, floods, landslides, severe winds, storm surges, tsunami or volcanic eruptions?	Yes
2.2	outputs and outcomes sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change or disasters?	Yes

[2] See the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

[3] See the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit sharing from use of genetic resources.

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	For example, through increased precipitation, drought, temperature, salinity, extreme events, earthquakes	
2.3	increases in vulnerability to climate change impacts or disaster risks now or in the future (also known as maladaptive or negative coping practices)? *For example, changes to land use planning may encourage further development of floodplains, potentially increasing the population's vulnerability to climate change, specifically flooding*	No
2.4	increases of greenhouse gas emissions, black carbon emissions or other drivers of climate change?	No
Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Security		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
3.1	construction and/or infrastructure development (e.g. roads, buildings, dams)? (Note: the GEF does not finance projects that would involve the construction or rehabilitation of large or complex dams)	Yes
3.2	air pollution, noise, vibration, traffic, injuries, physical hazards, poor surface water quality due to runoff, erosion, sanitation?	Yes
3.3	harm or losses due to failure of structural elements of the project (e.g. collapse of buildings or infrastructure)?	Yes
3.4	risks of water-borne or other vector-borne diseases (e.g. temporary breeding habitats), communicable and noncommunicable diseases, nutritional disorders, mental health?	No
3.5	transport, storage, and use and/or disposal of hazardous or dangerous materials (e.g. explosives, fuel and other chemicals during construction and operation)?	No
3.6	adverse impacts on ecosystems and ecosystem services relevant to communities' health (e.g. food, surface water purification, natural buffers from flooding)?	No
3.7	influx of project workers to project areas?	Yes
3.8	engagement of security personnel to protect facilities and property or to support project activities?	Yes
Standard 4: Cultural Heritage		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
4.1	activities adjacent to or within a Cultural Heritage site?	No
4.2	significant excavations, demolitions, movement of earth, flooding or other environmental changes?	No
4.3	adverse impacts to sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g. knowledge, innovations, practices)? (Note: projects intended to protect and conserve Cultural Heritage may also have inadvertent adverse impacts)	No
4.4	alterations to landscapes and natural features with cultural significance?	No
4.5	utilization of tangible and/or intangible forms (e.g. practices, traditional knowledge) of Cultural Heritage for commercial or other purposes?	No
Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
5.1	temporary or permanent and full or partial physical displacement (including people without legally recognizable claims to land)?	No
5.2	economic displacement (e.g. loss of assets or access to resources due to land acquisition or access restrictions – even in the absence of physical relocation)?	No

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5.3	risk of forced evictions?[4]	No
5.4	impacts on or changes to land tenure arrangements and/or community based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources?	No
Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
6.1	areas where indigenous peoples are present (including project area of influence)?	Yes
6.2	activities located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No
6.3	impacts (positive or negative) to the human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples (regardless of whether indigenous peoples possess the legal titles to such areas, whether the project is located within or outside of the lands and territories inhabited by the affected peoples, or whether the indigenous peoples are recognized as indigenous peoples by the country in question)? *If the answer to screening question 6.3 is "yes", then the potential risk impacts are considered significant and the project would be categorized as either Substantial Risk or High Risk*	No
6.4	the absence of culturally appropriate consultations carried out with the objective of achieving FPIC on matters that may affect the rights and interests, lands, resources, territories and traditional livelihoods of the indigenous peoples concerned?	No
6.5	the utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No
6.6	forced eviction or the whole or partial physical or economic displacement of indigenous peoples, including through access restrictions to lands, territories, and resources? *Consider, and where appropriate ensure, consistency with the answers under Standard 5 above*	No
6.7	adverse impacts on the development priorities of indigenous peoples as defined by them?	No
6.8	risks to the physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples?	No
6.9	impacts on the Cultural Heritage of indigenous peoples, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices? *Consider, and where appropriate ensure, consistency with the answers under Standard 4 above.*	No
Standard 7: Labour and Working Conditions		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to: (note: applies to project and contractor workers)		
7.1	working conditions that do not meet national labour laws and international commitments?	No
7.2	working conditions that may deny freedom of association and collective bargaining?	No
7.3	use of child labour?	Yes
7.4	use of forced labour?	No
7.5	discriminatory working conditions and/or lack of equal opportunity?	Yes
7.6	occupational health and safety risks due to physical, chemical, biological and psychosocial hazards (including violence and harassment) throughout the project life-cycle?	Yes
Standard 8: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		

[4] Forced eviction is defined here as the permanent or temporary removal against their will of individuals, families or communities from the homes and/or land which they occupy, without the provision of, and access to, appropriate forms of legal or other protection. Forced evictions constitute gross violations of a range of internationally recognized human rights.

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8.1	the release of pollutants to the environment due to routine or non-routine circumstances with the potential for adverse local, regional, and/or transboundary impacts?	No
8.2	the generation of waste (both hazardous and non-hazardous)?	Yes
8.3	the manufacture, trade, release, and/or use of hazardous materials and/or chemicals?	No
8.4	the use of chemicals or materials subject to international bans or phase-outs? *For example, DDT, PCBs and other chemicals listed in international conventions such as the Montreal Protocol, Minamata Convention, Basel Convention, Rotterdam Convention, Stockholm Convention*	No
8.5	the application of pesticides that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health?	No
8.6	significant consumption of raw materials, energy, and/or water?	No

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Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)

Project Title	Project ID
Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the areas affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake (LIDRE)	**01004107**

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Executive Summary

This Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) has been prepared for the Government of Japan funded Project **'Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the areas affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake (LIDRE)'.**

The Project aims to support effective earthquake recovery and long-term resilience, by enhancing government capacity for service delivery, support reconstruction, and promote revitalized livelihoods. The project will be implemented in Jajarkot and Rukkum West that were affected by the earthquake in 2023.

This ESMF has been prepared for the purpose of identifying potential environmental and social impacts of the project interventions. The preliminary analysis and screening is based on the project development phase on the basis of UNDP's Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) identified potential social and environmental risks associated with project activities. This ESMF covers potential activities on construction of pre-fab buildings to support local governments to facilaite continued basic service delivery by local governments as well as construction of community facility centre (CFCs) and cold storage construction to facilitate livelihood recovery.

This ESMF has been developed to specify the processes that will be undertaken by this project for the additional assessment of potential impacts and identification and development of appropriate risk management measures, in line with UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards (SES).

This ESMF identifies the steps that will be followed during the inception phase of the project with regards to social and environmental impact assessment and management. These include:

i) Potential impacts from support on improvement of basis service delivery with construction of pre-fab buildings for public infrastructures under Act. Result 1.1 and small-scale community infrastructures and livelihood recovery infrastructures that includes community facility centers and cold storage under Act. Result 1.2 under Output 1.

ii) Prior to the construction/implementation of activities, **site-specific environmental and social impact assessments (and accompanying ESMPs)** will be prepared. Once a sites has been finalized, a detailed feasibility study and design will be prepared and associated activities will be screened with the UNDP SES mandates.

iii) Targeted assessment of project/demo site-related Labour/OHS risks (through the application of a **Labour Assessment and Management Procedure)** will be prepared.

This ESMF also details the roles and responsibilities for its implementation and includes a detailed budget and monitoring and evaluation plan.

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
SECU	Social and Environmental Compliance Review Unit (UNDP)
SES	Social and Environmental Standards (UNDP)
SESP	Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (UNDP)
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

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1 Introduction

This Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) has been prepared for the Project '**Livelihoods Improvement and Disaster Resilience Enhancement in the areas affected by the Jajarkot Earthquake (LIDRE)'.** The proposed interventions will not only support the communities to recover from the earthquake but also build capacities of the local governments to restore disrupted public services, enhance disaster preparedness and start long-term recovery and reconstruction. In close collaboration with the local governments and other ongoing initiatives

1.1 Project Description

The overarching goal of the Project is to support effective earthquake recovery and long-term resilience, by enhancing government capacity for service delivery, support reconstruction, and promote revitalized livelihoods.

The specific objectives to achieve the overarching goals are:

- To enhance capacities of earthquake-affected local governments for effective basic service delivery, reconstruction, and long-term resilience;
- To strengthen sustainable and resilient livelihoods of earthquake affected people and communities; and
- To enhance capacity of local governments on emergency preparedness and response through improved plans/procedures, response equipment and response facilities.

The key components and expected outcomes are outlined below;

Project Components	Expected Outcomes
Activity Result 1.1: Capacities of earthquake affected local governments and districts strengthened to deliver basic public services	***10 pre-fab building constructed for government offices.***
	Equipment support provided to earthquake affected local government (LG)/district offices
Activity Result 1.2: Resilience to earthquake and climate risks enhanced in earthquake affected local governments	Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Plan for 5 LGs prepared
	1000 person trained on disaster response including 30% beneficiaries including women and youths & 50% of all govt. staffs
Activity Result 2.1: Livelihoods opportunities created, and market revitalized through, community infrastructure and other livelihoods interventions	800 people benefitted from livelihood support including 30% women led HHs
	35 facilities constructed for improved economic opportunities including ***– 25 small scale community-based infrastructures rehabilitated*** ***– 7 community facility centre constructed*** ***– 2 cold storages constructed***
	400 community members provided support from psychosocial counselling including 30% women, youth and marginalized groups

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The project includes construction of 10 pre-fab public buildings, 7 community facilities centres, 2 cold storage along and rehabilitation of 25 small scale community-based infrastructures that were damaged by the earthquake.

1.2 Purpose and Scope of this ESMF

This ESMF is prepared to assist in managing the potential adverse social and environment impacts associated with the construction related activities of the LIDRE Project, in line with the requirements of UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards (SES). The Project team will follow this ESMF during the start of the project implementation to ensure the environmental and social risks and impacts are fully assessed and management measure in place prior to the implementation of the relevant project activities.

This ESMF will be publicly disclosed in line with UNDP's Information Disclosure Policy and SES. At this stage, not all the activities have been fully specified in terms of specific locations and interventions, and as such they cannot be fully assessed for all the potential social and environmental risks and impacts. This ESMF has been therefore prepared to set out the principles, rules, guidelines, and procedures for screening, assessing, and managing the potential social and environmental impacts of the project as they are developed and designed.

1.3 Potential Social and Environmental Impacts

The project specific SESP identifies 12 social and environmental risks during the project preparation/design phase based on the probability of occurrence and the extent of the potential impacts. The overall risk categorization has been rated as 'Moderate' risks in view the lack of pre-feasibility and clear mapping of stakeholders, construction of pre-fab buildings and infrastructures, lack of detailed design and site specific SES, and risk related to occupational, health and safety for workers and construction activities.

The following Moderate Risks have been identified during the conduct of the SESP:

Risk 1: There is a risk that the local governments do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the project.

Cause: There might be a lack of awareness or capacity on the matter, in addition to little budget and potential disasters leading to reprioritization.

Impact: This may result in a lack of ownership at the policy level, and a delay in the operations and management budget creation by municipalities

Related risk: P.2

Risk 2: There is a risk of adverse impact on soils linked to construction work
Cause: The construction works will need extraction work, which might be done improperly

Impact: This can lead to landslides, and soil destabilization

Related risks: 1.7, 3.1

Risk 3: There is risk of an earthquake or climate-related disaster (flood, landslide)

Cause: The project area and Nepal in general are highly vulnerable to earthquakes, climate change and flood hazards.

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Impact: The disaster may affect populations and cause a reprioritization of the local government's action. Damage to the built infrastructure and prefab may further impede the access of the local communities to enhanced livelihoods and crucial services.

Related risks: 2.1, 2.2, 3.1

Risk 4: There is risk of erosion and dust pollution from excavated earth during the construction processes.

Cause: The excavated soil from the prefabricated building base and dust blown from the vehicles might pollute nearby settlements.

Impact: The construction work may affect populations and settlements

Related checklist items: 3.1, 3.2,

Risk 5: There is a risk of unwanted accidents of workers and stakeholders or failure of buildings or infrastructure.

Cause: Unmanaged/unprotected storage of the construction materials, design failure or quality of the materials used

Impact: The construction works may cause physical damage to workers and stakeholders.

Related risk: 3.1, 3.3

Risk 6: There is a risk of child labour associated with the construction projects

Cause: The selected construction work vendors might employ children

Impact: Child labour will have strong negative impacts on children employed

Related risks: 3.1, 7.3

A synthesis of the key project activities with potential social and environmental impacts is shown in

Table . This table is supported by the more detailed information on project-specific risks contained in the SESP completed for the project and found in Annex 9.

Table 1: Summary of Main Project Activities Resulting in Potential Social and Environmental Impacts.

Project Activity/ Component	Potential Social and Environmental Impact	SESP References (see SESPs in Annex)
Activity Result 1.1: Capacities of earthquake affected local governments and districts strengthened to deliver basic public services	This may result in a lack of ownership at the policy level, and a delay in the operations and management budget creation by municipalities. Limited consideration of the needs for women due to the lack of capacities and knowledge on best practices. The construction works will need extraction work, which might be done improperly.	Risk 1, Risk 2 Risk 3 Risk 4 Risk 5 Risk 6

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Project Activity/ Component	Potential Social and Environmental Impact	SESP References (see SESPs in Annex)
	The excavated soil from the prefabricated building base and dust blown from the vehicles might pollute nearby settlements. The selected construction work vendors might employ children	
Activity Result 1.2: Resilience to earthquake and climate risks enhanced in earthquake affected local governments	This may result in a lack of ownership at the policy level, and a delay in the operations and management budget creation by municipalities. Limited consideration of the needs for women due to the lack of capacities and knowledge on best practices.	Risk 1
Activity Result 2.1: Livelihoods opportunities created, and market revitalized through, community infrastructure and other livelihoods interventions	This may result in a lack of ownership at the policy level, and a delay in the operations and management budget creation by municipalities. Limited consideration of the needs for women due to the lack of capacities and knowledge on best practices. The construction works will need extraction work, which might be done improperly. The excavated soil from the prefabricated building base and dust blown from the vehicles might pollute nearby settlements. The selected construction work vendors might employ children.	Risk 1 Risk 2 Risk 3 Risk 4 Risk 5 Risk 6

2 Legislation and Institutional Frameworks for environmental and social matters

2.1 National Legislation, Policies and Regulations

The Government of Nepal has well-established legal framework for environmental and social assessment for development projects with the key relevant policies, act and guidelines that are relevant to the project are highlighted below;

Table 2 : Applicable Environmental Acts, Policies and Regulations

Act/Policy/ Regulations	Key Requirement or Salient Features	Applicability / Relevance
Constitution of Nepal, 2072 (2015)	The Constitution of Nepal (2015) mandates that every citizen has the right to live in a clean environment. The victim shall have the right to obtain compensation in accordance with law, or any injury caused from environmental pollution or degradation. The Article 30 of the Constitution of Nepal has provisioned every citizen's right to live in a clean and healthy environment. Necessary legal provisions can be made for a proper balance between the environment and development, in development works of the nation. The Article 51(g) has provisioned the requirement to protect, promote and make	The constitution is the fundamental law of Nepal.

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	environmentally friendly and sustainable use of forests, wildlife, birds, vegetation and biodiversity.	
Acts		
Local Government Operation Act, 2017	The Act, 2074 (2017) provides more autonomy to District Coordination Committees, Municipalities and Rural Municipalities. The Act provides the functions, rights and duties of the Ward Committee. The Act requires the ward to help for protection of environment through plantation over the bare land, cliff and mountains. It has mentioned the functions, rights, and duties of RMs, Municipalities and DCC. Apparently, RMs has an absolute authority over the natural resources. Thus, this act empowers the local bodies for the conservation of soil, forest, and other natural resources and implements environmental conservation activities.	*Facilitate close coordination is required with the local government and understanding of roles/responsibilities.*
Environment Protection Act (EPA), 2019	An umbrella act is the principal regulatory frameworks to make the development programs and projects environment-friendly which are now enforced through appropriate regulatory measures. The law contains several provisions to internalize environmental assessment system and to maintain a clean and healthy environment by minimizing the adverse impacts on human beings and other life forms and physical objects. The act highlights that any development project, before its implementation must pass through environmental assessment, which will be either brief environmental study (BES), Initial Environmental Examination (IEE), Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Strategic Environmental Analysis (SEA)depending upon the location, type and size of the projects.	*Depending on the location, type and size, provides a basis for conducting BES, an IEE, an ESIA or a SEA.*
Labour Act, BS 2074 (2017), Labour Regulations (2019)	The Act and regulations have many mandatory provisions related to employment, labor management, right of employers and employees. It provides for the mode of appointment, working hours, control of child labor, equal remuneration and other labor requirements.	Provision for zero child labour and labour management plan and operational health and safety.
Child-Related Act 1993 (2048 BS) and Child Labour Act 2001 (2056)	Government policy and child act define child labor below 16 years in risk-prone sectors and below 14 years in non-risk prone sectors and are not allowed to work. A strong vigilance is required to restrict child labor in construction and associated works. The Act has made the provision of prohibition of engagement of child in factory, mining and similar other risky work and to make necessary provision for health. Child's safety and services and facilities while engaging them in other work.	*Provision for zero tolerance for child labour.*
Land Reform Act (LRA) 2021 (1964).	This Act establishes the tiller's right on the land, which he is tilling. The LRA additionally specifies the compensation entitlements of registered tenants on land sold by the owner or acquired for the development purposes.	*Guidelines for acquisition of private land.*
Land Acquisition, Resettlement and Rehabilitation Policy, 2015	Government of Nepal has enacted Land Acquisition, Resettlement, and Rehabilitation Policy, 2015. The policy emphasizes scientific standards for land valuation and extension of compensation equivalent to minimum market value of land. A provision in the policy allows the government to take action against those who try to disrupt land acquisition process or create hurdles for the project. In this	*Provide guidance for land acquisition of govt. land for construction activities including provisions for compensation and resettlement.*

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	regard, the policy has stressed on the need to first assessment of socio-economic impacts of a project. All expenses related to land acquisition, compensation and implementation of resettlement and rehabilitation plans should be considered as a project cost. It has four approaches for land acquisition: Voluntary donation, Direct negotiation, Land development program, and Expropriation.	
National Foundation For Development of Indigenous Nationalities Act, 2058 BS (2002 AD)	National Foundation for Upliftment of Adivasi/Janjati Act, 2058 (2002) defines those ethnic groups and communities who have their own mother language and traditional rites and customs, distinct cultural identity, distinct social structure and written or unwritten history. The act has recognized 59 indigenous communities in Nepal. These indigenous communities are known as Adivasi/Janjati in Nepali and Indigenous Nationalities in English as per the act. These groups as whole are generally considered to be the marginalized segment of the population who engage in economic activities ranging from hunting/gathering and shifting agriculture in or near forests to wage laborers or even small-scale market-oriented activities. It has given significant emphasis on delivering basic services and special attention to the disadvantaged and indigenous people, scheduled occupational castes, and other vulnerable groups.	*Guidance for engagement and meaningful participation of IP groups in the project site.*
Solid Waste Management Act, 2068 (2011)	The Act clearly envisages about management of solid waste and provision of licensing for management. In such case, the article (7) on discharge of solid waste entails about the person, organization that produces hazardous waste or chemical waste shall have to manage such waste as prescribed (sub article 2). It is restricted that nobody shall do or cause to do the work relating to the solid waste management without obtaining license from the Local Body as prescribed by article 13 of chapter, miscellaneous sub article 1.	*Compliance with proper management of solid waste generated during the implementation of the project.*
Water Resources Act, 2049 (1992)	Water Resource Act, 1992 is the umbrella Act governing water resource management, which declares the order of priority of water use, vests ownership of water in the State, provides for the formation of water user associations, establishes a system of licensing and prohibits water pollution. Article 19 (1) of the act mentions that the government through notification in the Nepal Gazette prescribe pollution tolerance limits for the water resources. Similarly, article 19 (2) requires any person to abide by the act not to pollute water resources beyond specified limit. Article 20 states that while utilizing water resources, there should not be significant adverse impact on the environment with regard to soil erosion, flood, landslide and other similar cases. Articles 16, 19, 20 of the Act are also related to land acquisition. According to article 16 (3), the government shall, according to existing laws, acquire land for the licensed person or institution and any compensation in this regard shall be paid by the licensed person.	*Provides guidance on taking approval for water use and prohibits the subprojects to pollute water sources.*
Policy / Guidelines		

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National Environmental Impact Assessment Guidelines, 2050 BS (1993)	The guidelines provide guidance to project proponent on integrating environmental mitigation measures, particularly on the management of quarries, borrow pits, stockpiling of materials and spoil disposal, operation of the work camps, earthworks and slope stabilization, location of stone crushing plants, etc.	*Applies to civil works related with the construction/ improvement of facilities/ infrastructure in the project.*
National Occupational Safety and Health Policy, 2076 (2019)	The policy provisions for ensuring the safety of workers through reduction of risks at workplace through better working condition and appropriate occupational health safety gears.	*Provides guidance for worker safety and wellbeing during construction.*
National Environmental Policy 2076 (2019)	The main aim of the National Environment Policy, 2019 is to stop, control and mitigate all types of pollutions such as water, air, soil, noise, electromagnetic wave, chemical and radioactive hazard, management of wastes from the household, institution, service area and all other sources, expansion of park and greenery in urban and municipal areas, ensure environmental Justice for pollution affected victims, ensure participation in sustainable management and protection of environment and natural resource, enhance research and capacity building for environmental protection and management, reuse and recycle the available resource as far as possible and use of land according to Land use plan.	*Provides guidance on limitation for various types of pollution during the project interventions.*
Child Labor (Prohibition and Regulation) Rules, 2063 (2006)	The rule details out various conditional arrangements for child labour use and other legal provisions related with child labour.	*Guidance on zero tolerance for child labour.*
Forest Regulations, 2051 (1995)	The Rule 65 of the Forest Regulation stipulates that the proponents of the project itself shall bear the amount of compensation to be paid in case the execution of any project having national priority in any forest area causes any loss or harm to any local, individual, or community. In addition, the entire expenses required for the harvesting, logging and transportation of the forest products in a forest area should be borne by the proponents of the project.	Provides guidance to the project to avoid forest area/land
National EIA Guidelines, 2050 BS (1993 AD)	The guideline provides procedures for integrating environmental and social aspects to development projects, including objectives, criteria for project screening, IEE, scoping, preparation of TORs, EIA format, impact identification, mitigation measures, review, monitoring, evaluation and auditing, community participation, and schedules and annexes to the IEE and EIA.	Provides guidance on preparation of ESMF and SEF.
National Ambient Air Quality Standard, 2012	The standard sets maximum concentration limit for 9 air quality parameters, which include total suspended particles (TSP), particulate matter (PM 10), sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, carbon mono-oxide, lead, benzene, PM 2.5 and Ozone. The standards have also prescribed the test methods for these parameters.	Provide guidance to comply with the set standards of air quality during construction and operation.
National Noise Quality Standard, 2012	National Standard for Sound Quality is established as per Rule 15 of Environment Protection Rules, 2054. The maximum limit of sound for city and residential area is 55 decibels for	Provide guidance to comply with the set standards of noise

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	daytime and 50 decibels for night hours. Whereas for the industrial area, the maximum limit of sound is 75 decibels for daytime and 70 decibels for night hours. Further, for the peace zone, the maximum limit of sound is 50 decibels for daytime and 40 decibels for night hours.	pollution during construction and operation.
The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, UNDRIP, 2007	In 2007, the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was adopted by the General Assembly. It has established a universal framework of minimum standards for the survival, dignity and wellbeing of the indigenous peoples of the world and it elaborates on existing human rights standards and fundamental freedoms as they apply to the specific situation of indigenous peoples. Significantly, in Article 3 the UNDRIP recognizes Indigenous peoples' right to self-determination, which includes the right "to freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development." Article 4 affirms Indigenous peoples' right "to autonomy or self-government in matters relating to their internal and local affairs," and Article 5 protects their right "to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions." Article 26 states that "Indigenous peoples have the right to the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired," and it directs states to give legal recognition to these territories.	This is relevant to the project due to the need of the project to ensure the equitable participation of indigenous peoples.
International Labour Organization Convention, 1998	The General Conference of the International Labor Organization (ILO) adopted the Convention No. 169 in 1989 at its seventy-sixth session, which was ratified by the Legislative Parliament of Nepal in 2007. Convention No. 169 aimed at the protection of indigenous and tribal peoples and their rights. It is the foremost international legal instrument which deals specifically with the rights of indigenous and tribal peoples, and whose influence extends beyond the number of actual ratifications. The convention has 40 Articles. Some of them related to our study are given below: **Article 4.1:** Special measures shall be adopted as appropriate for safeguarding the persons, institutions, property, labour, cultures and environment of the peoples concerned. **Article 6.1:** In applying the provisions of this Convention, governments shall: (a) Consult the peoples concerned, through appropriate procedures and in particular through their representative institutions, whenever consideration is being given to legislative or administrative measures which may affect them directly; **Article 6.2:** The consultations carried out in application of this Convention shall be undertaken, in good faith and in a form appropriate to the circumstances, with the objective of achieving agreement or consent to the proposed measures. **Article 7.1:** The peoples concerned shall have the right to decide their own priorities for the process of development as it affects their lives, beliefs, institutions and spiritual well-being and the lands they occupy or otherwise use, and to	Provide guidance to ensure that the right of labour are safeguarded by the project.

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	exercise control, to the extent possible, over their own economic, social and cultural development. **Article 7.3:** Governments shall ensure that, whenever appropriate, studies are carried out, in co-operation with the peoples concerned, to assess the social, spiritual, cultural and environmental impact on them of planned development activities. The results of these studies shall be considered as fundamental criteria for the implementation of these activities.	

2.2 UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards

The ESMF of the LIDRE Project will comply with UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards (SES), which came into effect 1 January 2021. These Standards underpin UNDP's commitment to mainstream social and environmental sustainability in its programs and projects to support sustainable development and are an integral component of UNDP's quality assurance and risk management approach to programming. Through the SES, UNDP meets the requirements of the GEF's Environmental and Social Safeguards Policy.

The objectives of the SES are to:

- Strengthen the social and environmental outcomes of Programs and Projects.
- Avoid adverse impacts to people and the environment.
- Minimize, mitigate, and manage adverse impacts where avoidance is not possible.
- Strengthen UNDP and partner capacities for managing social and environmental risks.
- Ensure full and effective stakeholder engagement, including through a mechanism to respond to complaints from project-affected people.

3 Procedures for Screening, Assessing and Managing Social and Environmental Impacts

(A) Site Specific E&S impact assessment and additional screening

Output 1.: Capacities of earthquake affected local governments and districts strengthened to deliver basic public services. 10 pre-fab buildings for government to be constructed.

Output 2.: Earthquake-affected community resilience enhanced in selected districts and local governments. 35 facilities constructed for improved economic opportunities including construction of 9 Community Facility Centers, 2 cold storage and 25 small community infrastructures.

Prior to the construction/implementation of activities under i.e. Outputs 1 and Output 2), site specific environmental and social impact assessments will be required. This will include preparing a full detailed feasibility study along with screening of the interventions aligned with UNDP's SES standards. On the basis of the risk rating from the screening process, the ESMP will be prepared but in case of higher risk rating during the screening process, a site-specific environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) may be undertaken in accordance with UNDP's SES policy and the UNDP SES Guidance Note on Assessment and Management in accordance with the SES procedure. In such instance, each ESIA will be developed and carried out by independent experts in a participatory manner with stakeholders. The ESIA will further identify and assess social and environmental impacts of the project and its area of influence; evaluate alternatives; and design appropriate avoidance, mitigation, management, and monitoring measures.

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- Per the SES, the ESIA will assess project activities at the scale deemed appropriate for compliance with the SES.
- The ESIA will identify environmental and social sensitive receptors within the activity's area of influence.
- It will address all relevant issues related to the SES Overarching Principles and Project-level Standards, as identified in the project's SESP and any other issues identified during the ESIA.

The output of the ESIA will be an ESIA report and an environmental and social management plan (ESMP) for each demo site supported under project management cost of the project. The ESMP will define desired social and environmental management outcomes and specify social and environmental indicators, targets, or acceptance (threshold) criteria to track ESMP implementation and effectiveness.

(B) Targeted Assessment and relevant plans/procedures

Labour Management Procedures (LMP)

In view of construction activities, a targeted assessment of potential impacts relating to labour/OHS will be undertaken. The assessment and management of labour and OHS risks will not solely be focused on labor inputs during the implementation of these activities, but will also ensure that the labor and working conditions are prioritized. The Labour Management Procedure will be fully developed during the inception period of the project prior commencement of the construction activities.

Occupational Health and Safety: Contractors must engage a minimum of one safety representative. Smaller contracts may permit for the safety representative to carry out other assignments as well. The safety representative ensures the day-to-day compliance with specified safety measures and records of any incidents. Minor incidents are reported to the PMU on monthly basis, serious incidents are reported immediately and escalated to the PSC.

Labour and Working Conditions: Contractors will keep records in accordance with specifications set out the Labour Management Procedure. PMU may at any time require records to ensure that labour conditions are met. The PMU will review records against actuals at a minimum monthly and can require immediate remedial actions if warranted. A summary of issues and remedial actions will be included in quarterly reports to the PSC.

Worker Grievances. GRM procedures will remain for Project staff. Contractors will be required to present a worker grievance redress mechanism which responds to the requirements of UNDP and those specified in the LMP. The PMU's designated officer will review records monthly. Where worker concerns are not resolved, the grievances may be escalated and handled through UNDP's SECU.

The labour management procedures will include specific requirements as to the terms and conditions of the employment, that will:

- Comply with minimum age requirements set out in International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions or national legislation (whichever offers the greatest protection to young people under the age of 18) and keep records of the dates of birth of all employees verified by official documentation
- Check the activities carried out by young workers and ensure that children under 18 are not employed in hazardous work[1], including in contractor workforces.

[1] Hazardous work will normally be defined in national legislation and will be likely to include most tasks in construction and several in agriculture.

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- Assess the safety risks relating to any work by children under 18 and carry out regular monitoring of their health, working conditions and hours of work
- Ensure that any workers aged 13-15 are only doing light work outside school hours, in accordance with national legislation, or working in a government-approved training programme
- Ensure that contractors have adequate systems in place to check workers' ages, identify workers under the age of 18 and to ensure that they are not engaged in hazardous work, and that their work is subject to appropriate risk assessment and health monitoring

(C) Overall project SESP Update

During the implementation of the LIDRE Project, the project will be re-screened using UNDP's SESP (2021). Instances for this re-screening will occur when:

- Prescribed by the project's SESP and/or targeted assessments/management plans
- When project circumstances change in a substantive or relevant manner
- When determined necessary by the Project Manager (after consideration of the advice from PMU staff with responsibility for safeguards), the Project Board, or UNDP.

4 Institutional Arrangements and Capacity Building

4.1 Roles and Responsibilities for Implementing this ESMF.

Project Team

The Project Team will be overall responsible for the implementation of the ESMF. This ESMF does not cover the roles and responsibilities associated with implementation of the subsequent stand-alone management plans but will be detailed on the site-specific ESMP.

Project Steering Committee:
The PSC will be responsible to monitor the implementation of the ESMF and compliance with the UNDP's social and environmental standards and provide review and endorsement of any plans and necessary actions.

UNDP:

- Provide oversight on all matters related to safeguards.
- Inform all the stakeholders and right-holders involved in, or potentially impacted, positively or negatively, about the UNDP's corporate Accountability Mechanism (described below).
- Ensure that the Compliance Review and the Stakeholder Response Mechanisms are operational during the lifetime of the projects.
- Ensure adherence to the SES for project activities implemented using funds channelled through UNDP's accounts, and undertake appropriate measures to address any shortcomings.
- Verify and document that all UNDP SES requirements have been addressed.
- Provide technical guidance on implementation of this ESMF and administrative assistance in recruiting and contracting expert safeguards services (as required), and monitor adherence of each project to the ESMF and UNDP policies and procedures.

Project Management Unit (PMU)

- Supervise and manage implementation of measures defined in this ESMF.
- Assign specific responsibilities for implementation of this ESMF, including monitoring, and community consultations on the draft management plans to a staff member(s) of the PMO.

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- Maintain relevant records associated with management of environmental and social risks, including updated SESPs, impact assessments, a log of grievances together with documentation of management measures implemented.
- Report to the Implementing Partner, the Project Steering Committee and UNDP on the status and results of the implementation of the ESMF.
- Ensure that all service providers are informed of their responsibilities for the day to day compliance with the ESMF.

4.2 Capacity Building

Specialists with relevant expertise in social and environmental safeguards will be engaged to support the completion of targeted assessment, and the subsequent development of any stand-alone management plans. These experts will offer an induction session for Project Management Units (and implementing partners, as needed) on safeguards responsibilities and approaches.

Project Steering Committee will have the final responsibility for the integration of a stand-alone management plan in the execution of the project. The integration of that plan will need to consider particular institutional needs, including a review of the required budget allocations for each measure, as well as the authority and capability of institutions at different administrative levels (e.g. local, regional, and national), and their capacity to manage and monitor management plan implementation. Where necessary, capacity building and technical assistance activities will be included to enable proper implementation of the management plan.

5 Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

Discussions with project stakeholders, including local communities at project sites, commenced during the project development phase of each project. The Project will prepare a Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Gender Action Plan during inception period. These Plans will be followed to ensure that stakeholders are engaged in project implementation and particularly in the further assessment of social and environmental impacts and the development of appropriate management measures. The Project Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be updated during project implementation based on the assessments and management plans conducted in line with this ESMF, as needed.

Potentially affected stakeholders will be engaged during the implementation of this ESMF. As part of the stakeholder engagement process, UNDP's SES require that project stakeholders have access to relevant information. Specifically, the SES (SES, Policy Delivery Process, para. 21) stipulates that, among other disclosures specified by UNDP's policies and procedures, UNDP will ensure that the following information be made available:

- Stakeholder engagement plans and summary reports of stakeholder consultations
- Social and environmental screening reports with project documentation
- Draft social and environmental assessments, including any draft management plans.
- Final social and environmental assessments and associated management plans
- Any required social and environmental monitoring reports.

As outlined in the SES and UNDP's Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP), the type and timing of assessments and management plans vary depending of the level of social and environmental risk associated with the project as well as timing of the social and environmental assessment.

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This ESMF (and project SESP) will be disclosed via the UNDP Nepal's website in accordance with UNDP SES policy. The subsequent project ESMPs or stand-alone management plan will also be publicly disclosed via the UNDP Nepal website once drafted and finalized and adopted only after the required time for disclosure has elapsed.

These requirements for stakeholder engagement and disclosure will be adhered to during the implementation of this ESMF, and the subsequent implementation of the resulting ESMPs and any stand-alone management plans.

6 Accountability and Grievance Redress Mechanisms

6.1 UNDP's Accountability Mechanisms

UNDP's SES recognize that even with strong planning and stakeholder engagement, unanticipated issues can still arise. Therefore, the SES are underpinned by an Accountability Mechanism with two key components:

a) A Social and Environmental Compliance Review Unit (SECU) to respond to claims that UNDP is not in compliance with applicable environmental and social policies; and
b) A Stakeholder Response Mechanism (SRM) that ensures individuals, peoples, and communities affected by projects have access to appropriate grievance resolution procedures for hearing and addressing project-related complaints and disputes.

UNDP's Accountability Mechanism is available to all of UNDP's project stakeholders.

The Social and Environmental Compliance Unit (SECU) investigates concerns about non-compliance with UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards and Screening Procedure raised by project-affected stakeholders and recommends measures to address findings of non-compliance.

The Stakeholder Response Mechanism helps project-affected stakeholders, UNDP's partners (governments, NGOs, businesses) and others jointly address grievances or disputes related to the social and/or environmental impacts of UNDP-supported projects.

Further information, including how to submit a request to SECU or SRM, is found on the UNDP website at: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/accountability/secu-srm/.

6.2 Project-level Grievance Redress Mechanisms

A project-level Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) will be established during project inception. The full details of the GRM will be agreed upon during the project's inception phase. The GRM will be widely disseminated to all beneficiaries through flyers and posters and information sessions to be organized during the project discussions on the ground. The Project SES Focal Point and Field Coordinator will communicate with the local government to document all grievances during the project implementation. Interested stakeholders may raise a grievance at any time to the Project Field Office and Project Management Unit.

7 Budget for ESMF Implementation

Funding for implementation of the ESMF is included in the budget of the Project.

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8 Monitoring and Evaluation Arrangements

Reporting on progress and issues in the implementation of this ESMF will be documented in the project quarterly reports. Until the stand-alone management plans are put in place, the project management team will be responsible for compiling reports on the implementation of this ESMF, for reporting to the Project Steering Committees. Implementation of the subsequent stand-alone management plan will be the responsibility for the project team. The ESMF monitoring and evaluation plan is outlined below in **Table** .

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Table 3: ESMF Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

Monitoring Activity	Description	Frequency / Timeframe	Expected Action	Roles and Responsibilities
Track progress of ESMF implementation	Implementation of this ESMF, and with results reported to Project Steering Committee on an annual basis	Quarterly (until management plans are in place)	Required ESMF steps are completed in a timely manner.	Project Managers, with support from and Project M&E/Safeguards Officers
Implementation of management measures and monitoring of potential impacts identified in targeted assessment.	Permanent and participatory implementation and monitoring of management measures, in accordance with findings of targeted assessment	Continuous, once assessment is complete and management plan is in place	Implementation of stand-alone management plans; participatory monitoring; integration of management plans into project implementation strategies	Project Manager and oversight by UNDP CO SES FP and Portfolio Manager
Learning	Knowledge, good practices, and lessons learned regarding social and environmental risk management will be captured regularly, as well as actively sourced from other projects and partners and integrated back into the project.	At least annually	Relevant lessons are captured by the project teams and used to inform management decisions.	Project Manager
Annual Project quality assurance	The quality of the project will be assessed against UNDP's quality standards to identify project strengths and weaknesses and to inform management decision making to improve the project	Annually	Areas of strength and weakness will be reviewed and used to inform decisions to improve project performance	UNDP CO, with support from Project Managers and Project M&E/SES FP

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Monitoring Activity	Description	Frequency / Timeframe	Expected Action	Roles and Responsibilities
Review and make course corrections.	Internal review of data and evidence from all monitoring actions to inform decision making	Quarterly	Performance data, risks, lessons, and quality will be discussed by the project steering committee and used to make course corrections	Project Steering Committees
Quarterly implementation reports	As part of progress report to be presented to the Project Steering Committee and key stakeholders, analysis, updating and recommendations for risk management will be included	Quarterly reports	Updates on quarterly progress of ESMF will be prepared. A summary of the avoidance and mitigation of potential social and environmental impacts will be included in the progress report including sharing best practices and lessons learned across the program.	Project Managers and CO Portfolio Manager
Independent Review (third party)	Third party evaluators (SES) that will be hired to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing, or advising on the project to be evaluated.	Quarterly	Quarterly independent review of construction activities reported as part of assurance by CO. This will also include the final review of the ESMF/ESMP implementation by contractors and assurance by Project.	Independent third party reporting to CO Portfolio Manager

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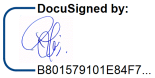
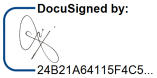
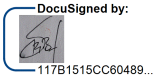
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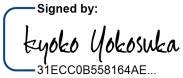
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