

# FINAL PROJECT REPORT

## Strengthening Community-Based Preparedness through Impact Based forecasting in Sindhupalchok District

**Submission Date: June 2026**

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Implemented by: Practical Action Consulting, Nepal

**Project Duration: July 2025 – June 2026**

**Country: Nepal**

*This project was implemented as part of a larger project named Strengthening Inclusive Disaster Risk Governance for Climate Resilience in Asia (SIDRRA), co-implemented by a consortium led by the International Rescue Committee (IRC), the Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN), and Duryog Nivaran.*



Strengthening Inclusive Disaster Risk Governance for Climate Resilience in Asia (SIDRRA)





## **Strengthening Inclusive Disaster Risk Governance for Climate Resilience in Asia SIDRRA**

### **Project Partner's Subgrant Project Progress Report (Final)**

**Report NO: 4**

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| <b>1. Executive Summary</b>       | <p>Sindhupalchok is one of Nepal's most hazard-prone districts, having endured the devastating 2015 earthquake and the catastrophic 2021 Melamchi floods. Panchpokhari Thangpal Rural Municipality, situated within the Melamchi-Indrawati watershed, remains highly exposed to recurring floods, landslides, and fire hazards. While early warning infrastructure existed, communities often lacked the knowledge and tools to translate forecasts into timely protective action, a gap this project was designed to close.</p> <p>With the support from Duryog Nivaran, implemented by Practical Action Consulting in partnership with a local NGO, the Community Development and Environment Conservation Forum (CDECF), and with technical support from the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM) and the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA), the project strengthened community-based preparedness through Impact-Based Forecasting (IBF) across six target communities spanning upstream, midstream, and downstream areas of the watershed.</p> <p>Over twelve months, the project delivered a comprehensive set of interventions. Two phases of IBF and Anticipatory Action training reached Community Disaster Management Committees (CDMCs) across all six communities. Participatory risk mapping and household survey were carried out across target settlements. Technical flood modeling using HEC-RAS 2D produced impact-based flood risk maps with a defined operational lead time for evacuation planning. Structured upstream-downstream community dialogues were supported by dedicated communication channels. Institutional capacity building on the BIPAD Portal and risk communication reached focal persons from four municipalities. School-based citizen science engagement, including mural art initiatives, extended awareness to more than 1000 individuals indirectly. In total, the project directly benefited 284 households and indirectly reached around 21,000 people across the Rural Municipality, while extending technical and institutional benefits to neighboring Melamchi Municipality and three additional municipalities in the district.</p> <p>The project applied a Missing Voices Approach throughout implementation to ensure that women, persons with disabilities, elderly people, and other marginalized groups were not excluded from preparedness planning, surfacing experiences and needs that would otherwise have remained invisible to formal community structures. Government officials from DHM and NDRRMA played an active facilitation role in key training, strengthening institutional ownership and credibility at the local level.</p> <p>By project closing, communities demonstrated measurable shifts in preparedness behavior, from passive reliance on informal weather observation to active understanding of the IBF bulletins, structured early action planning, and functioning cross-community communication networks. Finalized flood risk maps and the technical assessment were formally handed over to Panchpokhari Thangpal Rural Municipality, alongside a consolidated set of community-identified recommendations, providing local government with a concrete, evidence-based foundation for continued disaster risk governance. Strong local government ownership throughout the project suggests a credible pathway toward sustained integration of IBF practices into municipal planning beyond the project period.</p> |
| <b>Sub-grant Project Name:</b>    | Strengthening Community-Based Preparedness through Impact Based forecasting in Sindhupalchok District                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Reporting Period:</b>          | (July 2025 – June 2026)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Project Location:</b>          | Panchpokhari Thangpal Rural Municipality, Sindhupalchok, Nepal                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Name of Reporting Person:</b>  | Sneha Sanjel                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Date of Report submission:</b> | 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

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| <b>2. Progress Against Workplan &amp; Key Outcomes:</b>                          | <p>The project was implemented over twelve months across Panchpokhari Thangpal Rural Municipality, Sindhupalchok, and progressed in line with the approved workplan. All major planned activities were completed within the project period, with minor delays in the early phase managed through adaptive rescheduling without impacting overall outcomes. During the inception phase, local NGO and a field officer was recruited and deployed, six target communities were finalized, and training curriculum was developed. Planned community-level activities were temporarily delayed due to political instability, with the team using this period productively for preparatory and coordination work. Capacity building on IBF and Anticipatory Action was delivered across two phases to CDMC members from all six communities, progressing from foundational concepts in Phase 1 to deeper application and scenario-based planning in Phase 2, facilitated in coordination with DHM. Upstream-downstream community dialogue sessions were conducted, establishing structured coordination mechanisms and dedicated communication channels between communities along the river corridor.</p> <p>Flood modeling using HEC-RAS 2D was completed, producing impact-based flood risk maps, validated at community level and formally disseminated to the municipality. A household vulnerability survey was conducted across 40 households to inform the risk mapping. Participatory risk mapping was carried out across all six CDMCs, identifying hazard zones, safe spaces, evacuation routes, and vulnerable groups.</p> <p>At the institutional level, BIPAD Portal and risk communication training was delivered to focal persons from four municipalities in coordination with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA). School-based DRR workshops and mural art activities were completed across two schools. The project concluded with a formal handover of flood risk maps, the technical report, and consolidated community recommendations to the Rural Municipality, along with a closing meeting with local government and community stakeholders.</p> <p><b>Key Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 CDMCs strengthened on IBF, early warning interpretation, and anticipatory action planning</li> <li>• Upstream-downstream coordination mechanisms established and functional across the river corridor</li> <li>• Impact-based flood risk maps developed, validated, and handed over to local government</li> <li>• Operational flood lead time established, providing communities a defined window for evacuation and early action</li> <li>• Institutional capacity strengthened across 4 municipalities on disaster information management and risk communication</li> <li>• 284 households directly reached through flood risk mapping, with close to 21,000 people indirectly benefiting across the municipality</li> <li>• Over 100 students directly engaged through school-based citizen science activities, with awareness extended to over 900 individuals indirectly</li> <li>• Community-level behavioral shifts documented, including active use of IBF bulletins, emergency preparedness measures, and independent information-seeking behavior</li> </ul> |
| <b>2.1 Key Activities &amp; Progress (A summary of the main tasks completed)</b> | <p><b>Community Selection and Inception</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Six target communities finalized across upstream, midstream, and downstream areas of the Melamchi-Indrawati watershed through field visits and secondary data review</li> <li>• Coordination with local NGO and field officer recruited, deployed, and stationed in close coordination with Panchpokhari Thangpal Rural Municipality</li> <li>• Training curriculum and materials developed and contextualized to local hazard profile and literacy levels</li> <li>• Coordination meetings held with municipal officials, ward representatives, and local stakeholders.</li> </ul> <p><b>IBF and Anticipatory Action Capacity Building</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phase 1 IBF and Anticipatory Action training delivered to CDMC members across all six communities, covering flood risk concepts, early warning interpretation, risk matrices, and early action protocols</li> <li>• Phase 2 IBF training conducted in coordination with DHM, deepening application through scenario-based exercises and linking forecast information to specific community-level early actions</li> <li>• CDMC members demonstrated ability to interpret color-coded IBF bulletins and conduct scenario-based early action planning independently by end of project</li> </ul> <p><b>Upstream-Downstream Community Dialogues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structured dialogue sessions facilitated between upstream and downstream communities along the river corridor</li> <li>• Differences in risk exposure, response capacity, and information access identified and discussed across communities</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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|                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dedicated communication channels established through Facebook Messenger and Viber groups for real-time risk information sharing during flood events</li> </ul> <p><b>Flood Modeling and Impact-Based Risk Mapping</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Household vulnerability survey conducted across 40 households in five wards, capturing data on housing conditions, EWS access, and proximity to essential services</li> <li>• Hydrological flood modeling completed using HEC-RAS 2D across multiple return period scenarios.</li> <li>• Operational flood lead time calculated, establishing a defined window between upstream peak discharge and downstream flood arrival to support timely evacuation</li> <li>• Impact-based flood risk maps developed, combining hazard extent with vulnerability data through a risk layering mechanism</li> <li>• Flood risk maps validated through community-level consultations and formally disseminated to Panchpokhari Thangpal Rural Municipality</li> </ul> <p><b>Participatory Risk Mapping</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participatory risk mapping exercises conducted across all six target communities</li> <li>• Hazard zones, vulnerable households, safe spaces, and evacuation routes identified and mapped at settlement level</li> <li>• Mapping outputs used to inform community preparedness planning and shared with municipal authorities for integration into local planning processes</li> </ul> <p><b>Institutional Capacity Building</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BIPAD Portal, disaster information management, and risk communication training delivered to DRR and IT focal persons from four municipalities: Panchpokhari Thangpal, Melamchi, Indrawati, and Helambu, in coordination with NDRRMA</li> <li>• Municipal stakeholders engaged on disaster information management, detail damage assessment, and response coordination</li> </ul> <p><b>School-Based Citizen Science and Mural Art</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DRR, climate change, early warning, and early action workshops conducted at Shree Kshetrapaleshwori Secondary School and Shree Thangpal Valley Secondary School</li> <li>• Mural art activities completed at both schools, visually reinforcing disaster preparedness messaging for sustained community visibility</li> <li>• Students oriented on early warning interpretation, emergency preparedness, and access to meteorological information</li> </ul> <p><b>Missing Voices Documentation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dedicated outreach conducted beyond formal CDMC structures to capture perspectives of women, elderly people, persons with disabilities, and economically marginalized households</li> <li>• Community voices and experiences documented and integrated into preparedness planning discussions and municipal-level engagement</li> </ul> <p><b>Project Closure and Handover</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalized flood risk maps and full technical report handed over to Panchpokhari Thangpal Rural Municipality</li> <li>• Consolidated community recommendations formally submitted to local government for integration into planning and budgeting processes</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation visit conducted to assess outcomes and community-level behavioral change</li> <li>• Formal closing meeting held at the municipality with local government representatives, CDMC members, and project stakeholders</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>2.2. Progress Against Agreed Timeline</b></p> | <p>The project was implemented in line with the agreed workplan, with all major activities completed within the project period from July 2025 to June 2026. Minor delays encountered during early implementation were managed through adaptive planning and did not affect the achievement of planned outcomes.</p> <p>During Quarter 1, capacity-building activities originally planned for the inception phase were temporarily delayed due to political instability in Nepal, which restricted field travel and community mobilization. The team used this period for preparatory work, including curriculum development, stakeholder coordination, and community selection, and</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

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|                                  | <p>rescheduled the delayed training sessions to run alongside Quarter 2 activities, with no net loss to the overall timeline.</p> <p>Minor scheduling disruptions were also encountered during Quarter 3 due to local elections and stakeholder availability, which required rescheduling of some sessions. These were managed through flexible planning and close coordination with local partners, again without impacting overall progress.</p> <p>All core activities: IBF training across two phases, upstream-downstream community dialogues, flood modeling and risk mapping, participatory risk mapping, BIPAD Portal training, school-based workshops, and mural art activities, were completed as planned. Technical outputs including the flood risk maps and vulnerability assessment were finalized, community-validated, and handed over to the Rural Municipality within the project period. The project concluded with a formal closing meeting and full handover of project outputs to local government, completing all planned deliverables by the end of the project period.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>2.3 Project Result/Output</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 CDMCs trained across two phases on Impact-Based Forecasting and Anticipatory Action, with members demonstrating ability to interpret IBF risk matrices, link color-coded alert levels to early actions, and conduct scenario-based preparedness planning</li> <li>• 138 community members directly engaged through participatory risk mapping and community dialogue sessions, with hazard zones, safe spaces, evacuation routes, and vulnerable groups identified across all six target communities</li> <li>• Impact-based flood risk maps developed for the Indrawati river basin using HEC-RAS 2D modeling, incorporating hazard, exposure, and vulnerability data across multiple return period scenarios</li> <li>• Operational flood lead time established, providing communities and local authorities a defined and actionable window for evacuation and early action ahead of downstream flood arrival</li> <li>• Household vulnerability survey completed across 40 households in five wards, generating settlement-level vulnerability data that informed risk mapping and preparedness planning</li> <li>• 284 households directly benefited from flood risk mapping outputs, with close to 21,000 people across the Rural Municipality indirectly benefiting through integration of risk information into municipal planning</li> <li>• Upstream-downstream communication channels established and functional, enabling real-time risk information sharing between communities along the river corridor</li> <li>• BIPAD Portal, risk communication, and disaster information management training delivered to focal persons from 4 municipalities, trained in coordination with NDRRMA</li> <li>• DRR, climate change, and early action workshops conducted at 2 schools, directly reaching over 100 students and indirectly extending awareness to over 900 individuals through peer and household knowledge-sharing</li> <li>• Mural art installations completed at both schools, providing sustained visual reinforcement of disaster preparedness and early warning messaging</li> <li>• Missing Voices documentation completed, capturing perspectives of women, elderly people, persons with disabilities, and marginalized households, integrated into community and municipal-level planning discussions</li> <li>• Finalized flood risk maps, technical assessment report, and consolidated community recommendations formally handed over to Panchpokhari Thangpal Rural Municipality for continued use in local disaster risk governance and planning</li> </ul> |
| <b>2.4 Key Observations</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communities that engaged in participatory risk mapping and flood model visualization demonstrated notably stronger preparedness planning compared to those who received training alone, confirming that locally grounded visual tools are more effective in driving concrete action than information transfer</li> <li>• Color-coded IBF bulletins extended early warning reach beyond formally educated community members, with non-literate participants able to independently identify and communicate risk levels</li> <li>• Upstream and downstream communities experience flood risk differently in terms of exposure, response capacity, and information access, reinforcing the need for context-specific preparedness approaches rather than uniform community-level programming</li> <li>• Coordination between upstream and downstream communities improved significantly following facilitated dialogue sessions and establishment of dedicated communication channels, but remains dependent on reliable mobile network connectivity.</li> <li>• CDMC members showed increased confidence and clarity in roles following IBF training and scenario-based exercises, with growing ability to link forecast information to specific early actions at the community level</li> <li>• Government-led facilitation of IBF and BIPAD training by DHM and NDRRMA officials increased institutional credibility and buy-in among municipal stakeholders more effectively than project-led sessions alone</li> <li>• School-based engagement generated a ripple effect beyond direct participants, with students carrying DRR knowledge back to households and communities across different settlements, extending project reach at minimal additional cost</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

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|                                                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Missing Voices Approach surfaced experiences of compounded vulnerability, including displacement, exclusion from reconstruction support, and unequal access to early warning information, that would not have emerged through formal CDMC-level engagement alone</li> <li>• Local government demonstrated strong ownership and willingness to integrate project outputs into municipal planning, with the formal handover of flood risk maps and community recommendations received positively as a practical planning resource</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>2.5 Additional Project-Relevant Work</b>                | <p>Additional project relevant works include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collected and documented community voices, including perspectives of women, elderly, and marginalized groups, to inform inclusive risk communication and preparedness planning</li> <li>• Incorporated “missing voices” into community discussions and municipal-level engagements to ensure local realities and priorities are reflected in decision-making</li> <li>• Strengthened informal communication networks (e.g., Viber, Messenger groups) between communities for real-time information sharing</li> <li>• Supported dialogue between CDMCs and municipal authorities, contributing to stronger coordination and local ownership</li> <li>• Promoted consideration of GEDSI aspects in early warning dissemination and preparedness actions</li> <li>• Facilitated continuous engagement with stakeholders beyond formal activities to reinforce learning and uptake of project interventions</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>3. Challenges, Risk Management, and Lessons Learned</b> | <p><b>Challenges and Risk Management</b></p> <p><i>Operational and Field-Level Challenges</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Political instability during the early phase of the project restricted field travel and temporarily disrupted planned community-level training; the team used this period for preparatory work, finalizing curriculum and maintaining coordination with the Rural Municipality and rescheduled postponed sessions alongside later trainings, with no loss to overall outcomes</li> <li>• Local elections caused further scheduling disruptions across multiple quarters, managed through adaptive rescheduling without affecting the broader project timeline</li> <li>• Difficult terrain and limited accessibility in upstream communities reduced participation from remote settlements in centralized trainings and meetings; the project adapted by prioritizing field-based, community-level engagement and using the dedicated Field Officer to coordinate logistics and ensure consistent access across all six target communities</li> </ul> <p><i>Technical and Communication Challenges</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IBF and forecast information proved technically dense for community-level audiences even with structured training; while color-coded risk matrices improved accessibility, including for non-literate community members, the project addressed remaining gaps through repeated, simplified explanations and hands-on scenario-based exercises.</li> <li>• Risk communication between upstream and downstream communities was initially inconsistent, with no structured mechanism for real-time information sharing; this was addressed by facilitating direct upstream-downstream dialogue sessions and establishing dedicated Messenger and Viber communication channels between communities.</li> </ul> <p><i>Institutional and Systemic Challenges</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reassignment of municipal staff responsible for disaster management roles, including BIPAD Portal management, limited the continuity of earlier training investments; the project partially addressed this by engaging DHM and NDRRMA officials directly as trainers, increasing the likelihood that practices would be recognized, there would be technology transfer and would be sustained as government endorsed.</li> <li>• Communities in some areas showed fatigue and skepticism toward repeated assessments, having previously experienced multiple data collection exercises by other organizations without visible follow-up; this was addressed by maintaining transparency on data use, validating survey findings directly with communities, and ensuring visible follow-through through the development and handover of flood risk maps to the municipality</li> </ul> <p><b>Lessons Learned</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visual and participatory tools drive action more than information transfer alone. Training sessions alone had limited effect on preparedness behavior. It was the combination of participatory risk mapping and flood model visualization that shifted communities toward concrete planning, prompting communities to identify evacuation</li> </ul> |

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|                                                                           | <p>routes, safe shelters, and vulnerable households using locally grounded visual tools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Color-coded IBF communication works across literacy levels, but bulletin text requires simplification. Non-literate community members could identify and act on color-coded risk levels. However, written bulletin recommendations remained too technical for independent community use even after two phases of training.</li> <li>• Government-led facilitation strengthens ownership but must be backed by institutional commitment. Facilitation of trainings by government officials increased credibility and buy-in among municipal stakeholders.</li> <li>• Vulnerability is highly localized and cannot be addressed through municipal-level programming alone. Evidence from the household vulnerability survey confirmed that risk drivers, housing conditions, access to early warning systems, distance to safe shelters and services vary significantly even within the same community, requiring settlement-level differentiation in preparedness programming.</li> <li>• Citizen science and school-based engagement is a cost-effective channel for extending community reach. School-based DRR sessions and mural art activities reached students who carried preparedness knowledge back to households, extending project reach beyond direct participants. Strong demand from schools and local government for replication confirms this as a scalable, low-cost model.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>4.Communications, Stakeholder Engagement and Networking Highlights</b> | <p>Maintained regular coordination with Panchpokhari Thangpal Rural Municipality throughout the project period, with municipal officials actively participating in training, risk map validation, community dialogues, and the formal project closing meeting</p> <p>Strengthened working relationships with DHM and NDRRMA through joint facilitation of IBF and BIPAD Portal trainings, positioning both agencies as active partners in community-level disaster risk governance rather than purely technical backstops</p> <p>Facilitated direct engagement between upstream and downstream communities through structured dialogue sessions, building cross-community relationships and establishing communication channels that continue to function beyond the project period</p> <p>Extended institutional networking to four municipalities across Sindhupalchok through the BIPAD Portal and risk communication training, fostering peer learning and experience sharing among municipal DRR focal persons working on shared watershed-level challenges</p> <p>Engaged school administration, teachers, and students at two schools as active participants in citizen science and DRR awareness, establishing schools as ongoing community hubs for disaster risk communication</p> <p>Documented and formally shared community voices — including perspectives of women, elderly people, and marginalized groups — with municipal authorities, ensuring that grassroots realities informed institutional-level planning discussions</p> <p>Maintained continuous community-level communication through the stationed Field Officer, sustaining engagement and trust between formal project activities across all six target communities</p> <p>Supported strengthening of informal communication networks between CDMC members, ward representatives, and municipal officials, contributing to more responsive and connected local disaster risk governance beyond formal project structures</p> |
| <b>4.1 Voices from the Field</b>                                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purnamaya Danuwar(Single mother, post-disaster displacement): Purnamaya Danuwar was displaced after the earthquake damaged her house. Although reconstruction support was allocated in her name, it was taken by her in-laws, leaving her without resources to rebuild. She was subsequently forced to settle in a flood-prone riverbank area, where she restarted a small tea and snacks business. Despite awareness of the risk, lack of alternatives has constrained relocation options. “The earthquake took my house, but what hurt more was losing the support that was supposed to help me rebuild.” She also describes unequal access to disaster information and institutional communication. “No one tells me about meetings or early warnings. I hear about risks only when something is already happening.”Her story shows how gender, social position, and information access directly shape exposure and recovery pathways.</li> <li>• Tipeni CDMC Secretary – Ward 8 (Downstream flood-prone settlement at river confluence): Tipeni lies at the confluence of the Indrawati River and Tipeni stream and has repeatedly experienced severe flood impacts, including major events in 2021 and 2024. The area also hosts critical infrastructure such as a school and hospital, making exposure particularly significant. Earlier, preparedness was largely reactive, with limited structured early warning use and weak upstream–downstream communication. “Communities were relying on experience and</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

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|                                                | <p>weather observation; warnings were not clearly understood or linked to action,” shared the CDMC secretary. Following project engagement, structured risk mapping, IBF training, and dialogue processes have improved preparedness understanding. Households are now beginning to identify evacuation routes, safe shelters, and prepare emergency kits. Risk communication has also improved through digital coordination channels between upstream and downstream communities, strengthening early response capacity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bhotenamlang CDMC Chair – Ward 7 (High-risk settlement community structure): All households in Bhotenamlang are located in a high-risk area, making the CDMC central to preparedness efforts. Previously, coordination existed mainly in informal and reactive forms, with limited technical understanding of risk information. Before IBF integration, communities relied on traditional weather interpretation such as cloud patterns. “Before IBF bulletins, the weather forecast was uncertain. The community observed only clouds in the sky,” shared CDMC chair Sujan Shrestha. With the introduction of IBF training and participatory risk mapping, the CDMC has begun linking forecast information with local decision-making. Communities now refer to DHM updates, digital platforms, and color-coded alerts to guide early actions. “Now they are checking DHM websites, calling toll-free numbers, and using social media groups to verify information,” he added. The CDMC is now gradually shifting toward more structured, risk-informed preparedness practices, particularly during monsoon periods.</li> <li>• Kshetrapaleshwari Secondary School – Tipeni: At Kshetrapaleshwari Secondary School, disaster-related topics were previously part of formal curriculum but remained largely theoretical and disconnected from practical understanding. Teachers noted that students had limited clarity on how to respond during real disaster situations. “Although we had been teaching these topics, students had not clearly understood what disasters really are,” said teacher Chitrabahadur GC. Through project interventions, interactive sessions, visual demonstrations, and scenario-based learning were introduced. Students now understand early warning interpretation, emergency preparedness, and access to weather information. “The way safety actions were explained visually made everything clear. Earlier, we had studied disasters but not seen them in practice,” said a Grade 9 student. Mural art installations in the school now reinforce disaster awareness visually and continuously. Teachers also reported a shift toward more practical teaching approaches, including simulations and real-life examples, strengthening school-level preparedness.</li> </ul> |
| <b>5. Financial Summary &amp; Future Plans</b> | <p><b>Note:</b> Detailed financial data should be included in a separate Financial Reporting Template and only referenced here to show budget utilization.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>6. Appendices: Supporting Documentation</b> | <p><u><b>Pictures/MOVs (with description)</b></u></p> <div> </div> <div> </div> <p>Figure: Inception meeting at Panchpokhari Thangpal Rural Municipality and at ward office with DRR focal of RM, local NGO representative and CDMC representatives</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |



Figure: Participants from CMDRC taking part in IBF scenario-based simulation activity during IBF and AA training.



Figure: Training on Impact based Forecasting and Anticipatory Action to RM officials and CMDRC members



Figure: Community dialogue at upstream Yangri and downstream Tipeni



Figure: Mural Art Event at upstream and downstream schools



Figure: Completed art on school walls



Figure: School-based workshop on DRR, climate change, early warning information dissemination and early action.



Figure: Community dialogues and participatory risk mapping with CDMC representatives and locals

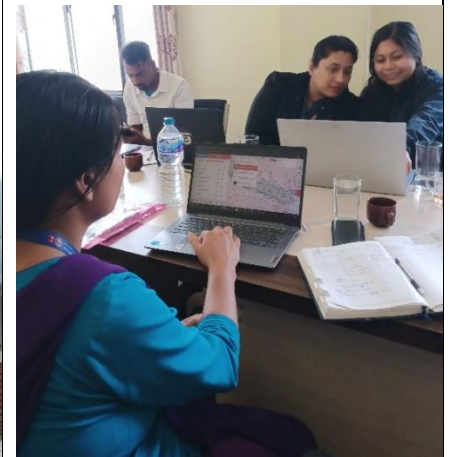


Figure: Training on BIPAD Portal, risk communication and response to municipal DRR and IT officers four municipalities in Sindhupalchok, in coordination with NDRRMA



Figure: Second phase of IBF training facilitated in coordination with DHM



Figure: Field-level flood maps validation and participatory risk mapping



Figure: Final maps and reports handover meeting at the rural municipality