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Subject: Post EQ Update - Our Situation/Work on the Ground - 36
Date: 31 August, 2016 PEQ Update (monthly)

General:

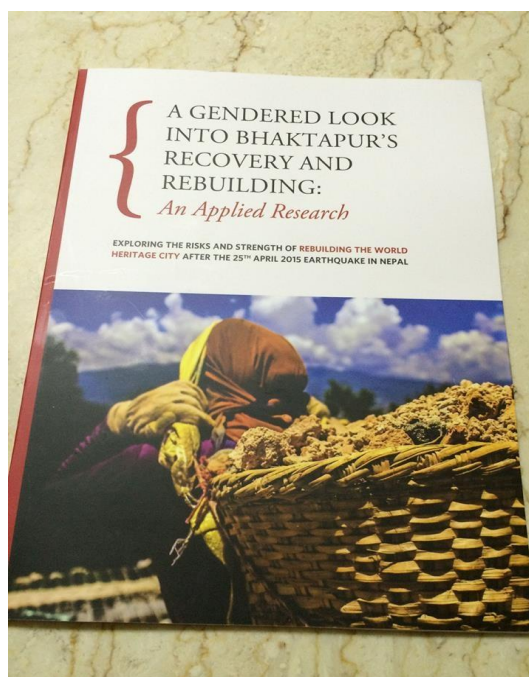


Once more our days comprised of protests especially with Dr. Govind KC's ongoing demonstrations against corruption and impunity. Somehow the days flew as we worked on many fronts to ensure we meet deadlines (despite having to depend on others). A new unholy coalition was formed between the Congress

and the Maoists in the yet another new government and ministers were instated. Just simply cannot catch up there. Natural disasters, and human made ones e.g. bus accidents were quite tragic. But now with a comparative view of the world and all around where homes and hospitals are bombed and little children are not spared, no one can really complain – can we!

Case Study/s:

1. The key thing for the two organizations in the post EQ recovery work this month, has been the joint research on Bhaktapur, which came out of the press! This research (L) and the background paper on Bhaktapur as a world heritage city written by Professor Purusottam Lochan Shrestha separately are both published by NA/Tewa. It is a big relief for the joint NA/Tewa team. A launch is scheduled at Bhaktapur for the 2nd September. But in the meantime a wide dissemination plan is off the ground to ensure how this research can be helpful in engendering recovery work especially in the heritage sites. The completion of the research within a year



from start to finish we found to be no less than a miracle given our conditions and the unofficial India blockade during the year.

Event the last day of the month we visited Bhaktapur to organize for the launch of the research on the 2nd. Rebuilding is moving at a snail's pace. The devastation is heartbreaking to see.

Tewa/NA:

This month Tewa brought the HTG volunteers and representatives of their district level organizations to host the following workshops:

1. Stock taking and review of the HTG volunteers and wider sharing,
2. Capacity building of the member organizations & enabling their understanding of the importance of the HTG work for further continuation, and
3. Celebrations of a successful year of the post recovery HTG programme.



The 3 days workshop for *Hamro Tewa Gaon Gharma* volunteers along with their organizational members from gathered to learn the achievements, challenges and learning of their work as volunteers in the 6 earthquake affected districts. Altogether there were 36 participants, (11 organization representatives from 6

districts, as well as the HTG volunteers). Several brainstorming sessions and related topics from resource persons, like Saloni Singh from Didi-Bahini and Rita Thapa Founder Tewa/NA, held in-depth discussions to strengthen the organizational values and understanding of different related issues like gender, women's empowerment, and organization development, learning and monitoring, feminism and feminist leadership and values, and the importance of community philanthropy. As a part of the celebrations, a dance therapy session was also conducted by Tewa grantee WOFOWON.

Participants enjoyed the workshop and especially those from the district member organizations, were most inspired by all they learned, and also by being physically present at the Tewa Center and in learning indepth about Tewa's philanthropic work.



Nagarik Aawaz (NA) Team visited Jharuwarashi, Chapagaun and Taukhel VDCs to coordinate with the schools to conduct a psychosocial awareness class for the students of class 12. This was followed by 2 sessions given by NA counselor Antina Ranjit in the school in Taukhel. All the youths are busy in providing counseling services to the clients at the local level, and doing necessary follow-up sessions. Youths are also supporting the community people by providing psychosocial awareness more widely as well as coordinating with other stakeholders as per need. Responsible partner organizations are regularly holding their monthly meetings with the youths.

NA Team (Hari, Pingala, Antina and volunteer Daniela) went to the fields - Gorkha and Dhading on 30th until 3rd for the following purposes:

1. An introductory meeting/discussions between teams of Unification Nepal and the psychosocial youth supporters who are working previously about effective implementation of BL/IH activities in Gorkha.
2. They are also visiting HADC, Gorkha for monitoring purposes, and
3. To organize a psychosocial awareness class in Chainpur VDC, Dhading with the coordination of Focus Nepal.

Conclusions:

This month the promotion by the Tewa Board of **Urmila Shrestha** (who was responsible for all the post recovery work under Tewa's responsibility) **to the position of a Deputy Director of Tewa**, was well deserved. The success of the HTG programme and the joint research speaks of Urmila's effective and efficient coordination and guidance. We all offer our heartfelt congratulations as Tewa/NA pledges their ongoing support during her increased leadership with Sadhana.

Tewa/NA post earthquake recovery work began 2 months after the earthquake of 25th April 2015. This month we have completed one year of our well begun HTG and BL/IH work, and the Bhaktapur research. Our need for supporting local communities continues to be great owing to ineffective State governance, and ongoing political transitions, as such Tewa and NA will need to tighten up their girdles and roll on the ground.