

Stand With Nepal



Dedicated to the People of Nepal

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Cover Image:

By planting broom grass and brush layers, individuals like Sarita Ale are helping to stabilize slopes and prevent landslides, feed their livestock, and have a source of income from making brooms.



n April 25, 2015, the earth shook as the Gorkha earthquake rumbled through Nepal's cities and villages, followed by numerous aftershocks that ultimately claimed 9,000 lives and injured nearly 25,000 more people—people who were mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, children and grandchildren. Nepal lost precious lives, and some of its most sacred treasures—over 30 monuments leveled in the disaster, including monasteries, temples, and holy sites. More than 750,000 homes were either damaged or destroyed, leaving traumatized victims without shelter.

But where concrete and steel fell, the Nepali people stood, and with them, so did Americans. Perhaps covered in dust and shock, but we stood. In the days that immediately followed the quake, I personally went to the affected districts to survey the damage. As a mother of

two small children myself, I could not help but want to comfort and console children who were not mine. The bond of parenthood is universal in that way, and it is a tie that connects and understands—it does not recognize borders of any kind.

Every disaster is different, and every disaster tests our preparedness and resolve. As Mission Director for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in Nepal, I am proud of America's response to one of Nepal's darkest moments. The U.S. Government's 20-year investment in disaster risk reduction proved critical to Nepal's ability to respond during and after the earthquake. Overall preparedness activities included pre-positioning supplies in 12 strategic locations throughout the country; training 400 health professionals in disaster response; training 7,500 masons and other skilled contractors in

MESSAGE FROM THE USAID/NEPAL MISSION DIRECTOR

seismically safe construction and building code compliance; constructing seven deep tube wells within the Kathmandu Valley; and constructing a seismic-proof blood bank at a major hospital, which made it possible for doctors and nurses to treat 700 patients and perform 300 surgeries within the first 24 hours post-disaster.

USAID mobilized an additional \$130 million to respond to immediate postearthquake needs, expanded existing projects into the earthquake-affected districts and stood up new projects to support long-term recovery. For example, USAID added \$2.7 million in new, pledged funds to our existing resilience project, Sabal. With this new funding, Sabal is establishing district and local reconstruction technology centers and vocational training programs in two earthquake-stricken districts. USAID also designed and funded a new 5-year, \$8 million project, Baliyo Ghar, that will provide training and technical assistance for an estimated 15,000 masons and hundreds of carpenters and engineers, and orient 285,000 affected homeowners on building earthquake-resistant homes in the most devastated districts.

USAID continues to implement existing programs that support Nepal's most vulnerable. Our health programs are preventing the spread of diseases by ensuring access to clean water and proper hygiene, delivering family planning services and counselling to women, and distributing Vitamin A supplementation to 3.2 million under-five children. Our education programs are creating safe spaces for children and getting them back to school. Our agricultural programs are distributing supplies and other tools for

farming so that fields and gardens can be replanted in time for harvest season.

Despite tragedy, Nepal is on a fast track to reduce its child mortality rates due to the continuity of successful programs for immunization, control of diarrheal diseases, and nutrition supplementation. Nepal has already achieved the global target for halting and reversing the trend of HIV prevalence among its 15-24 year-old population.

In 2015, Nepal also promulgated a new constitution that aspires toward more democratic process, and elected leadership who appointed Nepal's first woman president and speaker of the house.

America has stood with Nepal for 65 years and we continue to stand with Nepal as it regains its strength—with stronger homes, healthier families, abundant agricultural yields, and a more inclusive government. As we put the past year behind us, please take a moment to reflect on how far we have come, be mindful of the times when light shone through the dark, and know that in the coming years, the United States will journey onward with Nepal toward our shared vision — a more democratic, prosperous, and resilient Nepal.

I wish you and yours a healthy, prosperous, and happy New Year.

Beot Danfael

Stand tall Nepal!

Dr. Beth Dunford Mission Director USAID/Nepal



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Even before last year's earthquakes, USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance worked with local hospitals to handle massive catastrophes and sudden surges in case loads. Through the Hospital Preparedness for Emergencies (HOPE) project, I I hospitals, like Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital, had disaster plans in place. Under the leadership of Dr. Pradeep Vaidya (pictured below), the 300-bed hospital had more than 24 specialized treatment areas and a seismic-proofed blood bank, and was able to remain fully operational throughout the earthquake crisis. During the first 24 hours post-earthquake, health staff treated about 700 patients and performed 300 surgeries at the hospital.

JANUARY 2016

पुष/माघ २०७२

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(© USAID/Kashish Das Shrestha
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In 2015, Nepal unveiled a new constitution that aspires toward more democratic processes. The country's first woman president and speaker of the house joined many other women at the helm, an encouraging sign that Nepal is normalizing the idea of women in leadership. Just ask Savitra Bohara (pictured above). From child soldier to peace volunteer, Savitra has made her mark as an agent of peace and reconciliation, inspiring everyone who she comes across. Also inspiring change is a USAID-supported television series, Singha Durbar (pictured below). The series aims to educate Nepalis about how their government works, encourages inclusiveness, raises policy issues and demonstrates how citizens can engage with decision-makers.

FEBRUARY 2016

माघ/फागुन २०७२

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Photo: Search For Common Ground Nepal
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For years, Nepal has been undergoing a social shift, with men leaving to become migrant workers and women steadily stepping into social decision-making roles. Through USAID's Conflict Mediation and Mitigation programs, gender inclusion in Nepal is apparent at the local and national levels. For example, the SAMBAD: Dialogue for Peace project has worked with conflict-affected Nepalis, especially women and marginalized groups, to provide counselling and mentorship for economic engagement; strengthened community relationships to prevent sexual- and gender-based violence; and created more democratic structures empowering women to be a more significant part of decision-making processes.

MARCH 2016

फागुन/चैत २०७२

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When the April 2015 earthquake shook Nepal, a building near 14 year-old Sandesh Basnet's (pictured below) village collapsed, trapping him under the fallen roof. Currently, Sandesh is undergoing therapy on both legs at the National Disabled Fund, and uses a custom-built wheelchair (pictured above) that is reinforced to navigate Nepal's rocky terrain. The National Disabled Fund, which USAID's Strengthening Rehabilitation in District Environs (STRIDE) project supports, began as the first orthopedic workshop in Nepal and has since expanded into a full rehabilitation center with certified rehab specialists providing in-house physiotherapy, and tailored prosthesis and wheelchairs.

APRIL 2016

चैत २०७२/वैशाख २०७३

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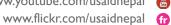


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USAID/SAMIR JUNG THAPA

Dum Maya Rana (pictured above) from Gorkha District and Juni Maya Bhujel from Tanahu District (pictured below) are broom grass entrepreneurs. They are among the many USAID Hariyo Ban beneficiaries who are helping to reinstitute and preserve green cover, prevent life-threatening landslides, conserve important biodiversity corridors, provide livestock feed, and have a source of income—all by planting a simple grass with matted roots.

MAY 2016

वैशाख/जेठ २०७३

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^{*} Buddha Jayanti holiday observed on May 20

^{**} Ganatantra Diwas holiday observed on May 27



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Agriculture is Nepal's main driver of economic growth. Numerous landslides during the 2015 earthquakes damaged cultivated land and irrigation systems, while collapsed buildings destroyed farm equipment and storage facilities. By expanding its existing Cereal Systems Initiative for South Asia/Nepal (CSISA-NP) project, USAID is now delivering needed agricultural tools and supplies to farmers like Navaraj Lamichhane (pictured above). And with the expansion of its ongoing resilience project, Sustainable Action for Resilience and Food Security (SABAL), USAID is working with local governments to repair irrigation systems (pictured below) that are crucial for paddy cultivation. Under this joint initiative, SABAL's cash-for-work funds cover the labor costs and the local government's block grants pay for the construction materials and engineering services.

JUNE 2016

जेठ/असार २०७३

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26 9? International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking	27 १३	28 98	29 ૧પ્ર	30 ૧૬		



PH	HOTO: SABAL PROJECT	
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Thanks to improved farming techniques, local farmers like Ms. Astuni Devi (pictured below) are able to withstand the shocks of floods and droughts, while also increasing yields, improving income streams and feeding local communities. USAID's Knowledge-based Integrated Sustainable Agriculture and Nutrition (KISAN) project has played a pivotal role in linking the agricultural supply chain—connecting suppliers to farmers and farmers to markets. Following the 2015 earthquakes, USAID projects helped jumpstart the agricultural sector by supplying saplings and government-issued seeds, rebuilding irrigation systems, establishing community nurseries, and continuing to provide technical assistance to improve crop yields, while also helping households replant kitchen gardens (pictured above).

JULY 2016

असार/साउन २०७३

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Many farm animals perished in the 2015 earthquakes, leaving numerous households without a source of livelihood. As an immediate response, USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance funded a 3-month relief project, Helping Earthquake-Affected Livestock (HEAL), to help local Nepalis with post-emergency essential veterinary services and restocking lost livestock. In Gorkha, Sindhupalchok, Dhading, Nuwakot, and Kavrepalanchok, the project hosted animal health camps (pictured below) that provided treatment for animals infected with disease, educated communities on using locally available food items and mineral mixtures to make animal fodder, and built livestock shelters.

AUGUST 2016

साउन/भदौ २०७३

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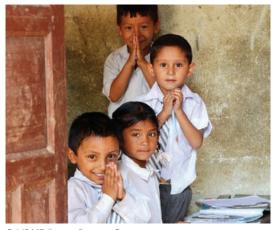
USAID/Kashish Das Shrestha

The 2015 earthquakes damaged 28,572 classrooms, leaving over 2 million children and youth deprived of a safe learning space, and increasingly vulnerable to human trafficking and child labor. To create safe learning spaces, USAID is funding the establishment of over 1,000 temporary learning centers in 10 of the 14 most-affected districts. These sites also receive teaching and learning materials, psychosocial training support for teachers, and water and sanitation facilities. Similarly, USAID worked with Save the Children and UNICEF to establish child-friendly spaces in 13 of the most-affected districts.

SEPTEMBER 2016

भदौ/असोज २०७३

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	AUGUST 2016						OCTOBER 2016						
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PHOTO: NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR EARTHQUAKE TECHNOLOGY (NSET)

The April and May 2015 earthquakes in Nepal destroyed or significantly damaged over 750,000 homes, making housing the single largest reconstruction need and the Government of Nepal's (GON) highest priority. Under USAID's Baliyo Ghar project, local masons, carpenters, engineers and affected homeowners are learning to build earthquake-resistant homes. These trained professionals will play an ongoing role in rebuilding resilient communities.

OCTOBER 2016

असोज/कात्तिक २०७३

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Laxmi Puja	Gobhardan Puja					Ghatasthapana	
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International Day of Non-Violence			World Teachers' Day		World Habitat Day	Phulpati	
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Mahastami	Columbus Day Mahanawami	International Day of the Girl Child Vijaya Dashami	Ekadashi	International Day for Disaster Reduction Dwadashi		Global Hand Washing Day Kojagrat Purnima	
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World Food Day	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty						
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Within minutes, Hira Bharati's (pictured above and below) whole world collapsed along with her home and animal shed, killing family members and livestock. In her time of need, Hira used the knowledge and skills she gained through USAID's Suaahara project to keep her family and community strong and healthy post-earthquake. She ensured that her family and neighbors stayed protected with simple sanitation and hygiene practices, like purifying drinking water and prioritizing toilet repair, and helped her community replant kitchen gardens and breed poultry.

NOVEMBER 2016

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PHOTO: SUAAHARA PROJECT/NABIN BARAL

When the 2015 earthquakes struck, it left Ratna Kumari's (pictured above and below) community devastated in Sindhupalchowk District. As a Female Community Health Volunteer (FCHV), Ratna and many other FCHVs, amidst their own personal tragedies, continued to regularly visit area communities to monitor children for malnutrition and counsel families on proper hygiene practices. Empowered by knowledge gained through USAID trainings, FCHVs maintained a continuity of services and provided immediate relief in the aftermath of the earthquakes—especially for women and children—playing a major role in preventing disease outbreaks and maintaining healthy communities.

DECEMBER 2016

मंसिर/पुष २०७३

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
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				World AIDS Day		International Day of Persons with Disabilities	
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World Conservation Day	Volunteer Day National Female Community Health Volunteer Day				International Anti- Corruption Day	Human Rights Day	
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International Mountain Day							
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SNAPSHOT

SAID's commitment to Nepal United States government announced \$130 million to support Nepal's earthquake relief and recovery needs. This contribution builds upon USAID's investments on disaster preparedness, and is only the beginning of our contribution to Nepal's earthquake recovery, which will span multiple years.



SUPPORT FOR HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Community resilience program expanded to NINE districts in the earthquake zone and already supported 600 hard-hit families through cash-for-work infrastructure development activities in **FOUR** districts.



USAID's contribution to the World Bank Nepal Earthquake Reconstruction Multi-Donor Trust Fund will directly support the Government-le beneficiary survey in the most-affected rural districts, as well as the provision of housing reconstruction cash grants to affected



EDUCATION – GETTING CHILDREN BACK IN SCHOOL

In collaboration with Save the Children and UNICEF

CHILD-FRIENDLY SPACES ESTABLISHED in 13 mostaffected districts, providing

VULNERABLE CHILDREN.



AND RECOVERY

has stood the test of time. In the aftermath of the devastating April 25 earthquake, our commitment remains stronger than ever. On June 25, 2015, the



years, USAID will train



affected HOMEOWNERS on



Temporary Learning Centers sites also receive **TEACHING** and **LEARNING** materials, psychosocial training support for teachers, and water and sanitation facilities



To meet the immediate needs of farm communities in 8 affected

districts, USAID is providing essential agricultural supplies and

TEMPORARY LEARNING CENTERS (TLC) in 10 of the 14 most-affected districts



REBUILDING LIVELIHOODS AND SUPPORTING FOOD SECURITY



Integrated Pest Management Innovation Lab provided SEEDS and SEEDLINGS, durable

Nepalis to help minimize economic shocks in two districts



Restoring ANIMAL HEALTH services in five districts most heavily impacted by the



TRAINING TO LOCAL MECHANICS on the maintenance of the power tools, use of community garden kits, along with advice for better crop production



mini-tillers and other modern agricultural tools



Integrated nutrition program is POLITRY FARMS and **VEGETABLE GARDENS** in six districts.



Short-term livelihoods support for

FOOD-INSECURE **HOUSEHOLDS** in



technical expertise, including



soft plastic cocoons for community grain storage

SUPPORTING GOVERNANCE AND PROTECTING THE VULNERABLE



To prevent increased HUMAN TRAFFICKING after the earthquake, USAID's Combating Trafficking in Persons program conducted vulnerability assessments in five districts, and expanded to six additional earthquake-affected districts associated with an sed risk for GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV), UNSAFE MIGRATION, and HUMAN TRAFFICKING.



USAID's **BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION** and **CLIMATE** CHANGE adaptation program is helping ensure that recovery and reconstruction efforts do not have unintended negative effects on the environment. For instance, the program encourages sustainable harvesting of timber from community forests for reconstruction



To help increase GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY and ACCOUNTABILITY on recovery spending, USAID expanded its local governance program to SIX AFFECTED DISTRICTS in an effort to increase communication and coordination between local government officials and community leaders. The program wil provide medium-term post-disaster support, including preparation of recovery and reconstruction plans by Village Development



USAID's governance program supported civil society groups to MONITOR BUDGET ALLOCATION, SPENDING, and the status of vulnerable groups in displacement camps, as well as capacity building to coordinate donor/ NGO support.



PRE-EARTHQUAKE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION INITIATIVES

Invested in training more that to conduct RISK ASSESSMENTS and develop EARTHQUAKE-PREPAREDNESS plans for schools, hospitals, and airport and transportation authorities, as well as raising public awareness for the use of "go bags.



HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE SERVICES



PHYSIOTHERAPY

ASSISTIVE DEVICES,

such as prosthesis, to the injured. Extended outreach rehabilitatio treatment care supported approx 1,000 injured in the earthquake-affected



MOTHERS, CAREGIVERS. PREGNANT, and counseled on breastfeeding

and maternal nutrition.



MEDICAL **ASSISTANTS**







400 Teaching HOSPITAL STAFF trained in disaster preparedness and a seismic-proof blood bank



EMERGENCY RESPONDERS from

construction of new DEEP TUBE WELLS Kathmandu Valley **OPEN SPACES** were identified and prepared in KATHMANDU VALLEY

RELIEF MATERIAL in strategic locations

throughout Nepal

In 2013



SCREENED fo MALNUTRITION



out-patient therapeutic **FEEDING**









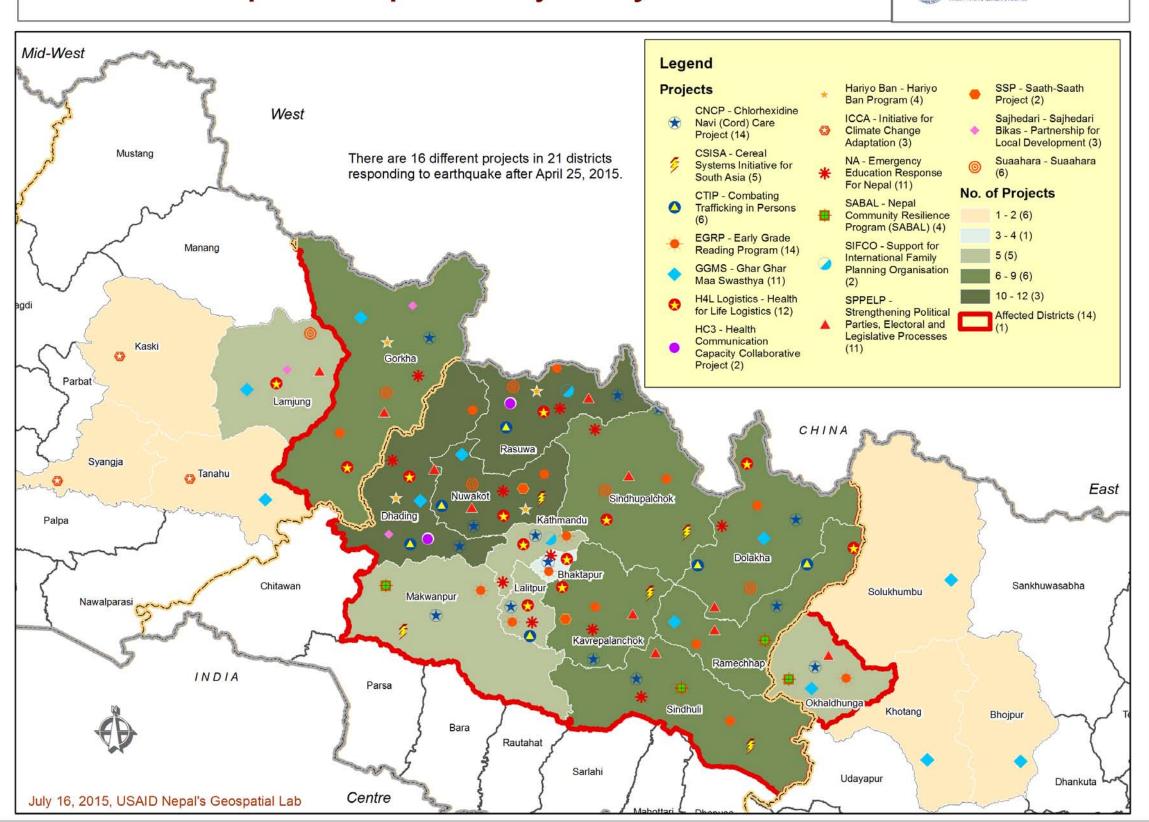






USAID's Earthquake Response Projects by District





In Partnership with Nepal: USAID/Nepal's Progress Toward a More Democratic, Prosperous and Resilient Nepal

KEY

ACHIEVEMENTS

2015

As detailed in the USAID/

Nepal Country Development

Cooperation Strategy (2014-18),

USAID continues to achieve

its 3 Development

Objectives.



Educated Nepalis on how to prevent and mitigate conflicts related to local governance, natural resource management and other national policies through the development and distribution of

536 RADIO AND TELEVISION MEDIA STORIES.



Reached

individuals with voter and civic education



Trained

REPRESENTATIVES (446 WOMEN) from Village Supervision and Monitoring Committees on social accountability tools.



Nepalis from MARGINALIZED **GROUPS**, providing

them with tools and resources so they can play a more substantive role in the peacebuilding process.



Provided legal guidance to

political party members (including women and youth) on the constitution drafting



Worked with the Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare and civil society to strengthen

O ANTI-**TRAFFICKING** policies, laws and international agreements.



Conducted a targeted "Antitrafficking in Persons" media campaign that reached

LAW

ENFORCEMENT officials, healthcare providers, educators and at-risk groups.



CRIMINAL JUSTICE PERSONNEL

(33 women) on how to combat human trafficking, and established 9 shelters/safe houses for trafficked victims.

USAID'S ONGOING DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR) INITIATIVES PRIOR TO THE EARTHOUAKES:



Successfully embedded community-based DRR plans to BUILD DISASTER RESILIENCE in remote and underserved communities through USAID's ongoing Community Resilience Program



Assisted in developing and implementing DRR and CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION plans for local communities to better prepare for extreme weather



PARTNERING with SERVIR-Himalaya, early warning systems now help safeguard local communities from wildfire in all 75 districts of Nepal



Flood early WARNING SYSTEMS like those in Kankai River basin are working to alert security forces and communities living nearby the river basin of potential



Integrating DRR messages into training packages for **HEALTH WORKERS** is helping to educate communities to become disaster resilient.



Successfully integrated DRR messages into **TEACHING** AND LEARNING MATERIALS as part of its early grade reading program.



48 individuals from the Nepali security forces, Nepal Red Cross Society, and municipal government offices trained as MEDICAL FIRST RESPONDER and Collapsed Structure Search and **RESCUE EXPERTS**, joining an existing squadron of 1,100 Nepali first responders trained with USAID support.

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE 1: MORE INCLUSIVE AND EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE

NEW PROJECTS, including Sustainable Action for Resilience and Food Security (SABAL), Promoting Agriculture, Health and Alternative Livelihoods (PAHAL) and Nepal Hydropower Development Project, all of which will support COMMUNITY **RESILIENCE AND IMPROVE NEPAL'S ENERGY** potential.



Improved agricultural productivity and food security interventions that directly benefited

RURAL HOUSEHOLDS.



on reading and basic math skills, nutrition, life skills, and entrepreneurship and financial skills through Feed the Future projects.

Supported SEED COMPANIES

to broker production contracts with

cooperatives that improved supply

chain management, quality seed

supply, and sales for farmers.



and 76% belonging to vulnerable households) on how to increase agricultural productivity and food security.

MILLION in additional, new

sales of vegetables and cereals.



JECTIVE 2: CONOMIC POVERTY AINABLEEC EXTREME ND SUSTAINABL REDUCE EXTRE OPM D SUS 2 ш GROWT

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE 3: INCREASED HUMAN CAPITAL



USAID increased access to high-quality maternal, **NEWBORN** and child health services in the fight to reduce child and maternal mortality. In USAID's focus areas, the number of newborns receiving antibiotic treatment for infection from health workers nearly doubled from FY 2014. USAID programs helped protect

birth in 2015 to avoid hemorrhaging, a major

cause of maternal death, within the first 24 hours following childbirth. Furthermore, nearly

children received treatment for diarrhea in USG-assisted programs.



REDU

DISASTER RISK

USAID continued to support the Government of Nepal's pursuit of an open-defecationfree country. In FY15,

of households in USAIDsupported areas are using an IMPROVED SANITATION facility as compared with

39% in 2012.



USAID worked to prevent HIV/AIDS TRANSMISSION by reaching nearly

people with a minimum package of prevention activities and ensuring that

individuals in most-affected populations received testing and counseling services for HIV.

Children receiving a minimallyacceptable diet rose from 36% .. 59%

USAID continued its

internationally-recognized efforts

to improve **NUTRITION** and

hygiene nationally, with a special

focus on food-insecure areas.

At the same time, Nepal has

maintained a high Vitamin A coverage of more than

O/ children /O under-five.

of children under osix months of age

in USAID focus areas are exclusively breastfed, compared with



Supported the establishment of

FARMERS, and

GREEN ENTERPRISES

and directly benefitted

COMMUNITY MEMBERS - more than half of them women - through ecotourism and enterprise activities

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