

HUMANITARIAN PARTNERSHIP PLATFORM (HPP) in Nepal

Equitable Partnerships:

Regional Humanitarian Partnership Week

2024

Context

- Externally led disaster response – a roadblock to self-reliance
- Federalization of DRRM sector – a half-baked solution
- Missed opportunity for the locally led humanitarian response
- Siloed and sectoral response – rat race for a podium finish
- Intersectionality ignored – Relief lacks inclusive approaches like SRHR post-rescue
- Masculine disaster response space – Women viewed as vulnerable, lacking strategic involvement
- Women-led organizations (WLOs) – Limited presence in disaster response leadership
- Women as unsung heroes – Volunteers led flood relief in informal settlements



Women and children forced to shelter in open areas after the Jajarkot Earthquake that struck on 3 Oct 2023

Uniqueness of HPP in Nepal

A **local system** & practices that **develops local capacities, deepens interrelationships among local actors, improves equity, and shapes** DRRM systems for improving humanitarian results.

- A team of diverse first responders (CSOs) with unique competencies come together in a single platform.
- Self-convene for collective planning and coordinated response actions.
- Provide collective support to government responses.
- Cross-learn and contribute to locally-led and gender responsive emergency preparedness and response.
- Shifting power to grass root organizations representing voices of marginalized and at-risk populations
- Serving as a watchdog and thought-leader for inclusive actions



Journey of HPP

2021

**Laying
Foundation**

- Scoping Study in 2 provinces
- Partners Capacity assessment
- Conveyed with likeminded CSOs for mutual understating
- Started with four partners

2022

Deepening

- Institutional Capacity building
- Members expanded representing diverse intersection groups and WLO
- Formation of secretariat and SOPs
- Started coordinated and collaborated response

2023

**Advancing and
Marketing**

- Prepared joint emergency Response plan & Advocacy Plans
- Co-work with local government localizing DRR and humanitarian policies
- Sharing and pitching model with donors and in National platforms
- Demonstrated a coordinated and successful response by the network in Doti and Jajarkot earthquake
- 16 partners including 6 Women-led Organizations and 3 networks with nationwide presence comprising

**2024 and
beyond**

Expansion

- USAID BHA agreed to use the network to build capacity of partners and promote locally led humanitarian response
- Expanding in 15 districts in 2 provinces with additional 40 partners
- Outcome mapping
- Developing sustainability approach with minimum essential features
- Scoping and laying foundation in additional provinces

Transformative Landmarks

- Shift from siloed and sectoral response to a network based integrated response
- Response swifter and comprehensive
- 66% of funding channeled to HPP
- Other INGOs leveraged HPP network to respond to 2023 Jajarkot Earthquake
- WLiE and GiE approach mainstreamed in CSO's humanitarian response
- Inclusion and Leadership
- Tailored Preparedness
- Enhanced Local Capacity
- Coordinated Response



“

The fire affected were able to receive relief support including kitchen utensils, tarpaulins and sleeping mats, which were required by the victims, through HPP. We were able to support them within 48 hrs which benefited them greatly.”

– Anita Chaudhary

Deputy Mayor, Bardiya District, Nepal





Sinamangal

**हामी सँगै छौं
स्वास्थ्य शिविर**

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Community Circle of Accountability: A Practice Model

“Improving Access to Right-Based Reproductive Health Services in Nepal – In Disaster Setting” Project in Kailali District

- **Focus:** Address barriers to equitable, timely, and quality SRHR services during disaster response and recovery
- **Objective:** Establish a rights-based social accountability mechanism for monitoring SRHR services

Key Features

- **Co-Designed Mechanism**
 - Combines social and legal accountability practices
 - Finalized through consultations with duty-bearers and right-holders
- **Implementation**
 - Operates in 21 community councils in Godawari Rural Municipality
 - Supported by community monitors and standardized SoPs

Best Practices:

Community Circle of Accountability

- **Enhanced SRHR Awareness:** Regular sessions addressing HIV prevention, family planning, menstrual hygiene, etc
- **Improved Access:** Awareness of free government health services, including ambulances and health post provisions
- **Breaking Taboos:** Open discussions on SRHR issues, reducing stigma among adolescents and communities
- **Strengthened Feedback Mechanisms:** Over 35 complaints recorded, with sensitive cases addressed confidentially
- **Improved Provider Behavior:** Enhanced empathy and responsiveness of health service providers
- **Increased Local Accountability:** Stronger collaboration between municipalities, service providers, and communities



“

After participating in the sessions for 6 months, I have learnt about addressing Gender based Violence (GBV), especially during disaster, family planning measures and menstrual hygiene. I have now started sharing with my family regarding my menstrual health issues, and I get iron tablets from Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs) rather than going to quack doctors.”



– **Sharda Nepali, adolescent girl, Godawari Rural Municipality**

Challenges

- Maintaining mutual understanding trust among partners (maintain the model fidelity)
- Sustaining without external catalyst
- Securing fund for operational cost of the secretariat
- Humanitarian cluster recognizing HPP as the voice of local CSO

Enablers

- Federated network organization with offices all over Nepal such as Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO), National Farmers Group Federation (NFGF), National Alliance of Women Human Rights Defenders (NAWHRD) are members of HPP.
- Local government's acceptance of HPP as a partner for comprehensive, inclusive and swift response
- Growing interest from CSOs, issue-based advocacy organization

Future Prospects

VISION: A vibrant diverse CSO led platform recognized for leading inclusive emergency preparedness and response

- Making more vibrant with expanding coverage led by HPP and making HPP more visible.
- Continued capacity to make 'principled response'
- Co-designing new tools and approaches with local partners
- Supporting innovative digital solutions for convening and information management among network of partners
- Developing a financing model of HPP(Marketplace for HPP)
- Tapping local government and private sectors resources
- Prepositioning partnerships and collaboration with other networks, clusters and local humanitarian system for wider acceptance
- Comprehensive humanitarian action response training to activists and champions



Thank You

