



Volunteers Initiative Nepal (ViN)

Volunteer Completion Report

Volunteer Information

- **Volunteer Name:** Alejandro Cervera, Mariana Coelho and Shrena Shrestha
- **Project:** Disaster Risk Reduction
- **Location:** Okhaldhunga
- **Dates of Service:** 05/11/2024-16/04/2025

Executive Summary

This report details the project's activities over the past five months, focusing on positively impacting the community and making the communities of Taluwa, Thulachhap and Bhadaure disaster resilient. Key initiatives to empower the community include the formation of the disaster management committee for each community and empowering them with the knowledge on preparedness and response through training of community preparedness and response (CPRT) and club management training.

This report serves as a guide, outlining the project's objectives, key activities, and planned future directions. It also identifies remaining tasks and offers recommendations to ensure the project's continued success

1. Project Background

1.1 Project Description: The project aims to enhance disaster preparedness, response, and recovery in rural communities by implementing various capacity-building interventions to create a safer and more resilient community.

During the period, the project focused on several key areas:

- Conducting surveys to identify community needs in DRR.
- Creating a step-by-step response booklet for the Disaster Management Committees (DMCs) for Taluwa, Thulachhap and Bhadaure.
- Establishing DMCs in Bhadaure, Taluwa, and Thulachhap.

- Conducting Community Preparedness and Response Trainings (CPRT).
- Conducting Committee Management training

2. Achievements and Outcomes

2.1 Key Achievements:

- Conducted surveys with 60 individuals across three communities.
- Identified community needs in DRR.
- Developed a disaster response booklet for DMCs.
- Established DMCs in three communities through general assemblies, with a focus on gender balance.
- Conducted CPRT trainings, covering first aid, search and rescue, victim extraction, and fire evacuation.
- Conducted Committee Management trainings, including roles and responsibilities, leadership, fundraising, and legal registration

2.2 Community Impact:

- Engaged with over 500 community members through assemblies and training.
- Informed community members about DRR project objectives and DMC functions.
- Equipped community members with knowledge and skills for disaster preparedness and response.
- Strengthened relationships with community members and local stakeholders.

3. Personal and Professional Development

3.1 Skills and Knowledge Gained:

- Improved data collection and analysis skills.
- Enhanced community engagement and interpersonal skills.
- Developed public speaking and crowd management techniques.
- Gained experience in training delivery and session planning.
- Increased adaptability, versatility, and time-management skills.
- Deepened understanding of disaster response and management.

3.2 Reflection:

- Volunteers were inspired by the community's willingness to participate in the project despite facing hardships.

- The experience provided valuable insights into the challenges and realities of disaster response.
- Volunteers developed a greater appreciation for the ethnic and cultural diversity of the region

4. Challenges and Solutions

4.1 Challenges Faced:

- Logistical and coordination challenges in organizing assemblies and trainings.
- Time constraints and demanding schedules.
- The need to adapt project plans to the local context and community needs.
- Coordination with external organizations and stakeholders.
- Ensuring adequate resources and materials for training.

4.2 Problem-Solving Strategies:

- Utilized time management and flexibility to meet deadlines and adapt to changing circumstances.
- Employed creative problem-solving to address logistical challenges and community-specific needs.
- Strengthened communication and collaboration with community members and organizations.
- Developed engaging and informative training sessions to maximize participation and understanding

5. Feedback for ViN

5.1 Project Feedback:

- The project successfully engaged the community and achieved its objectives.
- The emphasis on gender and social equity in DMC formation was commendable.
- Continued support for DMCs will be crucial for long-term sustainability

5.2 Support and Resources:

- ViN's support was essential in facilitating community engagement and project implementation.
- Improved coordination and communication with ViN and partner organizations could further enhance project effectiveness.
- Providing adequate resources and materials for training is essential for quality outcomes

6. Recommendations for Future Volunteers

- Develop strong community engagement and communication skills.
- Be adaptable and flexible in the face of changing circumstances.

- Prioritize time management and organization.
- Build strong relationships with local stakeholders.
- Thoroughly research the local context and cultural nuances.
- Continuously seek feedback and adapt project approaches as needed.

7. Appendices



Fig. 1. DRR Team delivering DMC formation at general assembly



Fig.2. DRR Team and Lithuanian NGDO Platform partners at first ever DMC pre-assembly location, ECD Building in Taluwa Ward 9.



Fig.3. Community members in Taluwa Ward 8 actively engaged in the selection process of volunteer nominees.



4. Armed Police Force training the Taluwa DMC on fire response.



Figs. 5 and 6. DMCs engaged in Executive Committee Roles and Responsibilities exercise.

8. Conclusion

The five-month volunteer project made significant contributions to enhancing disaster preparedness and resilience in the communities of Okhaldhunga. The establishment and training of DMCs have empowered community members to take ownership of their safety and well-being. We extend our gratitude to ViN and the communities for the opportunity to contribute to this important work.