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Program for Enhancement of Emergency Response Stage 4, 2014-2019 (PEER4)



Dedicated to Institutionalization of Emergency Response Trainings in South Asia

- Medical First Responder (MFR)
- Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue (CSSR)
- Community Action for Disaster Response (CADRE)
- Hospital Preparedness for Emergencies (HOPE)
- Swift Water Rescue (SWR)

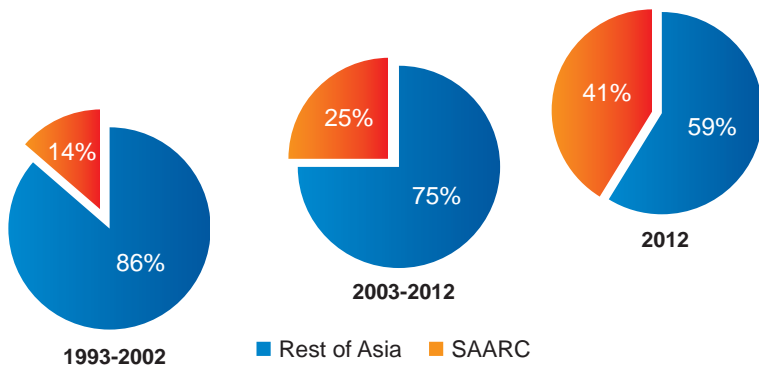
Implemented by:
National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET)
with funding support from
United States Agency for International Development/
Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

Background

South Asia is highly prone to natural hazards; the resulting risk of damage and losses are also very high. While floods, landslides, cyclones, and droughts are frequent and devastating, earthquakes and tsunami are rare but lethal when they occur. A major event causing large-scale loss of life, and assets, displacement and disruption of livelihoods is becoming more and more frequent.

Disaster Deaths in Asia and SAARC Region

(Data source: World Disasters Report 2013, IFRC (Table 13))



The growth of disaster risk is largely due to vulnerable buildings and infrastructures, but also due to poor emergency response capacity and preparedness at the national, state, districts as well as at community levels.

The Program for Enhancement of Emergency Response, Stage IV (PEER4) is addressing the need to further strengthen emergency response capacity of people and government of South Asian Countries, namely, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Pakistan.

History

USAID/OFDA introduced the PEER program in Asia in 1998. Since then three stages of PEER have already been successfully implemented.

PEER 1 (1998-2003)

4 target countries: India, Indonesia, Nepal and Philippines.

Implemented by: Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) with technical assistance from Miami Dade Fire Rescue Department.

Main Focus:

- Introduction of experience from Latin American countries and organized Medical First Responder (MFR) and Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue (CSSR) capacities to Asia
- Translation of courses in English from Spanish.

PEER 2 (2003-2009)

6 target countries: Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan and Philippines.

Implemented by: National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET).

Main Focus:

- a) Localization and institutionalization of the courses and establishment of a system of training programs in training institutions for development of qualified instructors
- b) Translation of course into local language
- c) Development of HOPE-TFI for training and development of HOPE instructors
- d) Reorientation of HOPE course from earthquake centered to multihazard
- e) Development of MFR and CSSR refresher courses.

PEER 3 (2009-2014)

10 target countries: Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and Thailand.

Implemented by: NSET for objective 3 (MFR and CSSR) in six countries - Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan and Philippines.

Focus was strengthening and institutionalization of the training courses.

Implemented by: ADPC for objective 1 (Community Action for Disaster Response) and objective 2 (HOPE) in ten countries – the six PEER countries plus Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and Thailand. Focus was to strengthen and institutionalize HOPE, develop and establish CADRE.

PEER 4 (2014-2019)

Goal

Reduce mortality in mass casualty events and increase survival rates of disaster victims in the program countries.

Objectives

The objective of PEER Stage 4 is to enhance Emergency Response Capacity of South Asian Countries by providing trainings on:

- Medical First Responder (MFR)
- Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue (CSSR)

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- Community Action for Disaster Response (CADRE)
- Hospital Preparedness for Emergencies (HOPE)
- Swift Water Rescue (SWR) courses and

By promoting networking and collaboration among relevant individuals and institutions in the region.

Partners

NSET is working together in partnership with three different institutions:

American Red Cross for development, adaptation and facilitation with national societies of Red Cross and Red Crescent in conduction of training courses on CADRE, SEEDS India on implementation of CADRE course in India, and Initiative Outdoor for development, adaptation and piloting of a training course on SWR.

Program Impacts and Challenges

PEER 1, 2 and 3 have been successful in developing/ adapting emergency response training courses in Asian context, engage key government and other relevant agencies in the PEER process, and initiate a process of PEER instructor development in the countries. Countries have realized the value and importance of the quality and standards for such training courses: a significant number of graduates and instructors have been developed in the countries. They are imparting emergency response courses, such as MFR, CSSR, HOPE and CADRE to develop instructors and end-users.

As compared to the scale of problem faced, the progress and achievements so far have been not enough quantitatively in order to effectively reduce the risk of the countries significantly and to trigger a self-sustained process.

Program Approach

There is still the need to strengthen self-sustained process of high standard and high quality instruction and development, research by consolidating the foundation of PEER process and to ingrain it with the national program and efforts. The PEER4 is designed to address this huge need in the target countries.

PEER is funded by USAID/OFDA and implemented by NSET. NSET will be coordinating with regional organizations such as SAARC, ASEAN, and with other relevant associations for an effective implementation of PEER. NSET will work under the guidance of nodal agencies (e.g. National Disaster Management Organizations) in respective countries and will work together with partner organizations (PO). PO could be a national training or research institution, local authorities, private-sector institution or a NGO working in aspects of disaster preparedness and emergency response. PEER will try to best fit into the emergency response program and roadmap of the SAARC and the respective beneficiary countries.

PEER 4: Number of Graduates Targeted

| Program Countries | MFR | CSSR | MFR-B | CSSR-B | TFI | MFRIW | CSSRIW | HOPE | HOPE-TFI | CADRE | CADRE-TFI | SWR | MIW | Total Program |
|-------------------|-----|------|-------|--------|-----|-------|--------|------|----------|-------|-----------|-----|-----|---------------|
| Bangladesh | 24 | 24 | 72 | 72 | 28 | 24 | 24 | 112 | 28 | 112 | 28 | 6 | 7 | 558 |
| India | 24 | 24 | 72 | 72 | 28 | 24 | 24 | 112 | 28 | 112 | 28 | 6 | 7 | 558 |
| Nepal | 24 | 24 | 72 | 72 | 28 | 24 | 24 | 112 | 28 | 112 | 28 | 6 | 7 | 558 |
| Pakistan | 48 | 48 | 96 | 96 | 56 | 48 | 48 | 140 | 28 | 112 | 28 | 6 | 7 | 758 |
| Total Graduates | 120 | 120 | 312 | 312 | 140 | 120 | 120 | 476 | 112 | 448 | 112 | 24 | 28 | 2428 |

PEER 4: Training Activities

| Program Countries | MFR | CSSR | MFR-B | CSSR-B | TFI | MFRIW | CSSRIW | HOPE | HOPE-TFI | CADRE | CADRE-TFI | SWR (Pilot) | MIW | Total Program |
|-------------------|-----|------|-------|--------|-----|-------|--------|------|----------|-------|-----------|-------------|-----|---------------|
| Bangladesh | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | - | - | 21 |
| India | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | - | - | 21 |
| Nepal | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 23 |
| Pakistan | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 1 | - | - | 29 |
| Total | 5 | 5 | 13 | 13 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 17 | 4 | 16 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 94 |

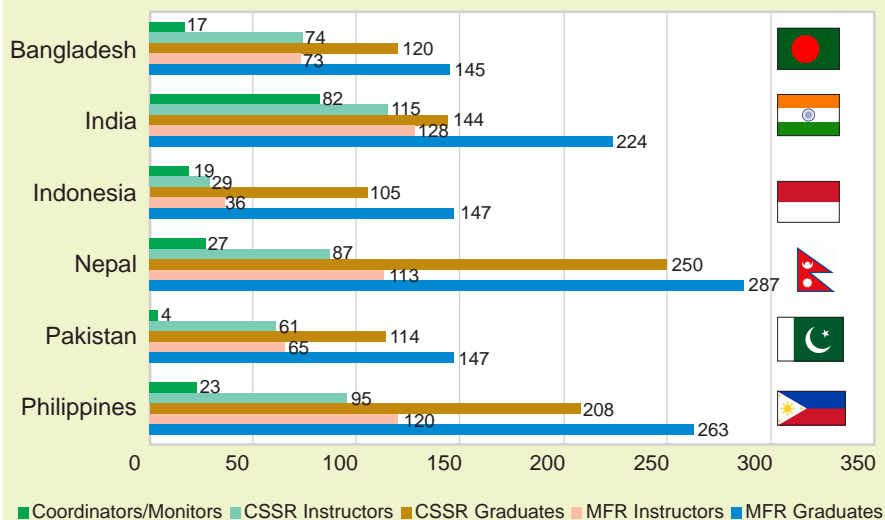
Total number of planned program activities at the regional and country levels.

Meetings, Workshops and Conferences

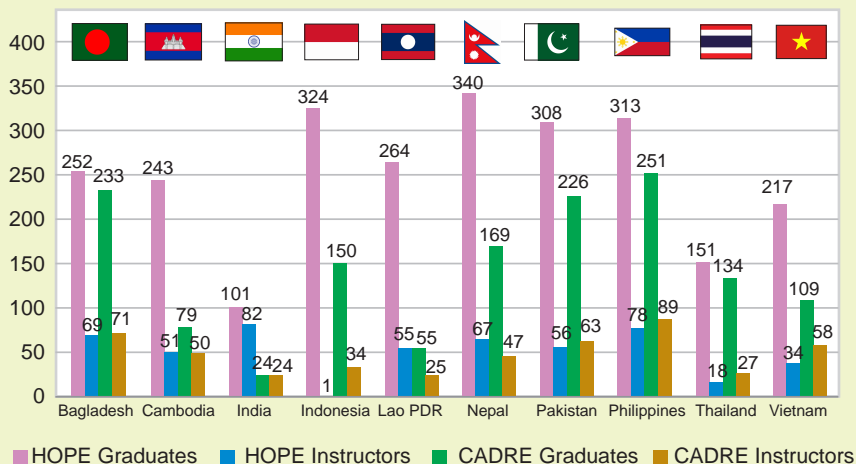
| Meetings/workshop/conference | PEER Countries | | | | Total Events |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| | Bangladesh | Nepal | India | Pakistan | |
| Strategic Planning Meeting | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Course Review Workshop | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Regional Planning Meeting | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Country Planning Meeting | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 20 |
| Final Lesson learned Meeting | | 1 | | | 1 |
| General Conference | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Periodic Progress/review meeting | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 20 |
| SWR Course development workshop | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Monitoring and Evaluation | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 8 |
| Total Events in countries | 12 | 18 | 12 | 12 | 54 |

PEER Achievements

PEER (MFR and CSSR) Graduates and Instructors as of June 2015



PEER (HOPE & CADRE) Graduates as of June 2015



PEER Response to 25th April Gorkha Earthquake

PEER program beneficiary countries are highly prone to different types of natural hazards; and due to lack of preparedness and response capacity these hazards usually result to major disasters. These countries have been facing disasters one after another.

On 25th April 2015 Nepal was hit by a big Gorkha Earthquake, followed by more than 300 aftershocks with local magnitude ≥ 4 until June 28, 2015. The country as a whole got involved to respond to this devastating event. With due respect to the affected population from the Gorkha earthquake, the outcomes of emergency response was a great example of PEER contribution for reducing the number of mortalities during disasters or emergencies in the beneficiary countries.

Immediately after the event the PEER-trained professionals were mobilized by their respective organizations to respond in the search and rescue operations, namely from Nepal Army, Nepal Police and Armed Police Force. As the impact was huge, there was involvement of other responders as well.

However, most of the national SAR operation teams were led by PEER trained responders. The responders expressed that the skills and knowledge gained from PEER courses and the equipment provided made a big difference in SAR operations; and also helped them to work in same pace and system with international SAR teams. Besides the national security forces, PEER responders from Nepal Red Cross Society, NSET and some municipalities also got involved in SAR operations spontaneously for saving lives. Mainly the graduates of Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue (CSSR), Medical First Responder (MFR) and Community Action for Disaster Response (CADRE) were involved for SAR

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activities. Similarly, the Hospital Preparedness for Emergencies (HOPE) program under PEER made a difference for preparing the health facilities for emergencies.



Responders in Real Operation

Theory of Change

NSET has envisaged that after the effective implementation of PEER 4, each PEER country would be able to develop a minimum of 6 (1 squad) mid-level professional responders for 400,000 population and 6 (1 squad) community level responders for 10,000 population. This is a tall order and would require close engagement and commitment of all stakeholders in each country.

For more details:

PEER

**Program for Enhancement of
Emergency Response (PEER)**



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