

# Employment Fund Skills for Reconstruction (EF-SR) (Phase II)



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
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Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA  
**Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC**  
स्वीस सरकार विकास सहयोग एसडिसि



**ABOUT 5.4 MILLION  
PEOPLE WERE  
AFFECTED BY THE  
EARTHQUAKES IN  
APRIL AND MAY  
2015.**

<b>Goal</b>	People in the earthquake-affected areas have rebuilt earthquake resilient houses.
<b>Target groups</b>	People from the affected districts, especially, individual women and men from poor and disadvantaged groups wishing to gain skills and work in reconstruction in remote areas, and homeowners living in remote areas, with special attention to vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, in need of support to rebuild houses and access the Government of Nepal's Rural Housing Reconstruction Program (RHRP) grants.
<b>Budget</b>	CHF 5.96 million
<b>Geographic focus</b>	Khotang, Okhaldhunga and Ramechhap
<b>Implementing agency</b>	Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation
<b>Time Frame</b>	15.07.2015 - 30.06.2020

## Summary

The earthquakes in 2015 killed 9'000 people, destroyed 500'000 and damaged 280'000 houses. The Government of Nepal (GoN) is leading post-earthquake housing reconstruction, but the implementation of its national program is sluggish. Training of qualified construction workers and lack of reconstruction support for homeowners remain key constraints. Thus, Employment Fund will be extended to benefit additional 1'150 women and men with skills trainings and is adapted to provide reconstruction support to 65'000 homeowners.

## Outcomes expected

- Skilled women and men construction workers from poor and disadvantaged groups are employed to rebuild houses using earthquake resilient techniques.
- Earthquake affected homeowners in Khotang, Okhaldhunga and Ramechhap have rebuilt safe houses according to the rules and regulations prescribed in the GoN's RHRP.



## Background

About 8 million Nepali were affected by the earthquakes in 2015. Over 500'000 private houses were fully and 280'000 partially damaged. Today, high numbers of qualified masons and carpenters are still needed to rebuild the houses applying earthquake resilient techniques. Nepal is suffering from labour shortage in the construction sector due to continuous outmigration. Furthermore, the GoN is struggling with the timely implementation of the RHRP. Changing reconstruction policies, lack of clear communication from central to district and local authorities together with several changes in the leadership of the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) led to significant delays. Weak institutions and a lack of qualified personnel (i.e. engineers) plus a high turnover of staff deputed to the affected areas are also responsible for a sluggish implementation.

The NRA and the Ministry of Finance have been consulted and welcome the extension of the Employment Fund Phase II (EF-SR) with its specific focus on skills for reconstruction and homeowner support.

## Outputs

- Women and men from poor and disadvantaged groups from the disaster affected areas have access to skills training in trades relevant for reconstruction.
- Graduates have received satisfactory job placements including reconstruction support by Technical and Educational Service Providers in the affected districts.
- Training providers recognise and respond to the differentiated needs of men and women in skills trainings for reconstruction works.
- Earthquake affected homeowners have received information and engineering support, to rebuild their houses according to the rules and regulations of the GoN/ NRA.
- Local governments and the NRA have received support to regularly monitor housing reconstruction activities and implement the GoN RHRP.



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