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The Gorkha Aftershocks - A Window of Opportunity to Human Development in Okharpauwa, Nepal?

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Abstract

The Gorkha earthquake that happened on the 25th of April and its aftershocks on the 26th 2015 was a remarkable event in Nepal's history. Okharpauwa, a village development committee in Nuwakot District, was considerably affected by the aftershocks and the affected people were in the process of recovering when this master's thesis was written.

A dominant idea within disaster recovery literature is that; *the post-disaster recovery phase is often regarded as a "window of opportunity" for improved re-development*, in this master's thesis linked to an approach on human development. This master's thesis is an examination of whether this idea is possible or not. Such examination has been demonstrated through an analysis of the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa and the affected people's access to five instrumental freedoms. The analysis was based on theoretical concepts from disaster recovery theory and the human development approach. The data was primarily derived through a fieldwork conducted in Okharpauwa.

The findings were that the Gorkha aftershocks cannot clearly be seen as a window of opportunity to human development in Okharpauwa however, it had resulted in other potential opportunities such as financial aid, toilet facilities or improved relationships with relatives, that the affected people had not experienced before. The idea of a natural disaster as a window of opportunity to improved re-development has therefore been critically assessed in this master's thesis and it was concluded that the idea is not applicable to all cases.

Keywords: The Gorkha aftershocks, ongoing recovery process, human development, a window of opportunity, Okharpauwa, Nepal.

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Abbreviations

CA	The Capability Approach
CBO	Community based organisation
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
HRRP	Housing Recovery & Reconstruction Platform
IFRC	International Federation Red Cross
OSOCC	On-Site Operations Coordination Centre
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
PDNA	Post-Disaster Needs Assessment
PDRF	Post-Disaster Recovery Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNISDR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
VDC	Village Development Committee
VIN	Volunteers Initiative Nepal

1. Introduction

The post-disaster recovery period is often viewed as a time for new possibilities, renewal, and improvement (Joakim & Wismer, 2015:402). Recovery is increasingly being viewed as not only the matter of getting back to normalcy but as to “build back better”. The approach of “building back better” has become more frequent as governments as well as aid organisations have adopted it into their recovery frameworks. “Building back better” is based on the idea that a “window of opportunity” for disaster risk reduction, vulnerability reduction, and improved re-development is generated during the recovery period (Joakim & Wismer, 2015:402).

This master’s thesis is based on a case study of Okharpauwa a village development committee¹ (VDC) in Nuwakot District, Nepal (see figure 1).



Figure 1: *Okharpauwa, Nepal* (Google maps)

Okharpauwa has been affected by the aftershocks that occurred on the 26th of April as a result of the Gorkha earthquake on the 25th of April 2015 (VIN 2014, PDRF, 2016:1).

Approximately 1000 casualties and 1300 injuries were reported after the aftershocks in the Nuwakot district. Infrastructure and houses were destroyed and

¹ A village development committee (VDC) is the lower administrative part of the national

the government has estimated that the aftershocks have affected 51 % of the citizens in the Nuwakot district (OSOCC, 2015). The numbers of casualties, injuries, and damages after the Gorkha aftershocks in Okharpauwa were unknown at the time this thesis was written.

The Gorkha Aftershocks in Okharpauwa

Nuwakot district (see figure 2), one Nepal's 75 districts and with the total size of 1.121 km², has 61 village development committees (VDCs), one municipality and approximately 61.950 households (OSOCC, HRRP). Okharpauwa is located in Nuwakot district unfortunately there is not much data available on Okharpauwa in general and especially not after the Gorkha aftershocks. The following information is therefore based on reports of Nuwakot district.



Figure 2: Nuwakot District (Google Maps)

The inhabitants in Nuwakot district have especially experienced a big loss in collapsed buildings and crops. Approximately 30.000 buildings have been destroyed and 15.000 partly damaged in the district (OSOCC, 2015). Prior to the aftershocks, the farmers had cultivated 19,768 ha of crops, which mostly were destroyed after the aftershocks because of no attention and heavy rains (OSOCC, 2015). After the shocks, people were generally unsure of whether they should attend to the fields or rebuild their homes (OSOCC, 2015). One and a half years after approximately five percent of the population has started reconstructing their homes (HRRP, 2016). There has been a focus on training in reconstruction, in order for the district to “build back better”. The concept of “build back better” is

mainly framed by UN agencies but is also followed by the national government in Nepal. The concept refers to reconstructing houses and buildings following building codes that secure disaster resilient buildings (UNDP, 2015:10). A part of the recovery plan is, therefore, to make the VDCs resilient to future earthquakes and aftershocks by reconstructing buildings that use solar systems and built-in mason.

Okharpauwa consists of nine wards² (see figure 3) with an uncertain population number after the Gorkha aftershocks. Before the Gorkha aftershocks, the population consisted of 7901 people with approximately 1500 households (VIN: 2014).

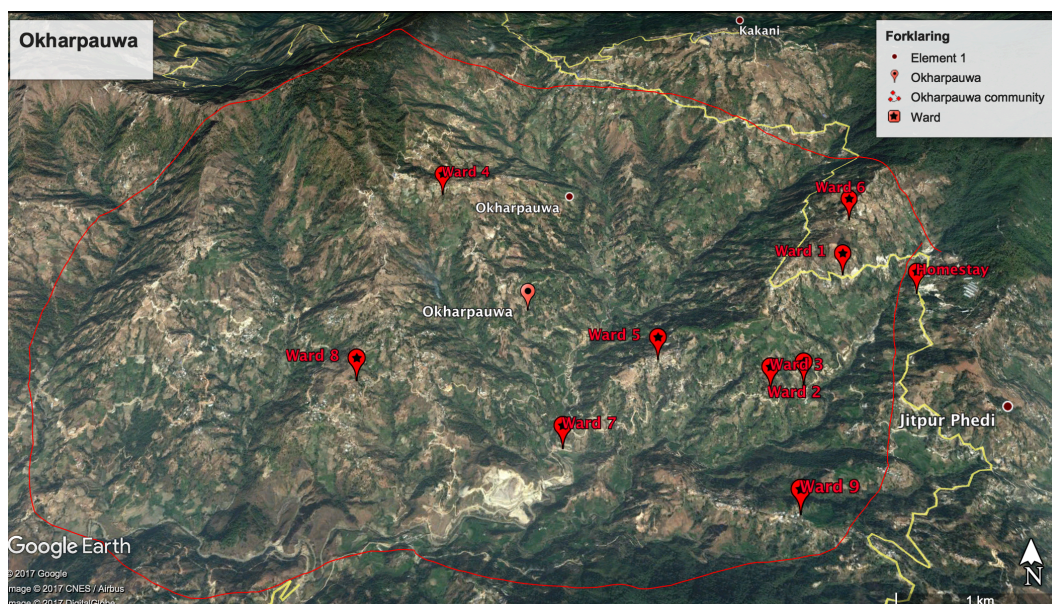


Figure 3: *Wards in Okharpauwa*, (Google Earth)

Even though Okharpauwa is only 20 km from Kathmandu is it difficult to access some of the wards because of the road conditions or due to the fact that they are located in the mountains. The wards therefore also differ: especially ward four, six, seven and eight are difficult to access and are consequently of lower living standards than, for example, ward one. Thus, some of the wards are more marginalised and underdeveloped than others.

² See *clarifications* section for definitions of wards

There are four primary schools and one primary health care center in Okharpauwa. It indicates that education is scarce and health status is poor (VIN, 2014). The main occupation in Okharpauwa is agriculture and the inhabitants are dependent on their crops.

Socio-cultural hierarchies such as the castes are still present in Nepal, hereunder Okharpauwa. Most of the people living in Okharpauwa belong to the Shudra caste, which entitles them as farmers or workers. However, in some of the wards, the affected people also belonged to other castes, such as Brahmin (priests, educators, teachers etc.). The people living in Okharpauwa are diverse and have different backgrounds, which implies that their recovery process might also differ.

Disaster Management in Nepal

Nepal is prone to natural disasters because of its mountainous terrain. Landslides and floods are the most frequent natural disasters (UNISDR, 2014). The worst season is from May to April when snow is melting from the mountains and floods the valleys (IFRC, 2016:6). The national government and local governments are therefore used to dealing with these natural hazards. However, the consequences of an earthquake and its aftershocks are different than from landslides and floods (Coppola, 2011). Previous larger earthquakes occurred in 1934, 1980, and 1988 and caused thousands of casualties and adversely affected the development process in Nepal (Chhetri, 2001:64). A lot has changed in Nepal since the last large earthquake in 1988 (Chhetri, 2001:64). Both national and local governments are, as a result, facing another kind of challenge in relation to what they are used to.

The national government prepared a post-disaster recovery framework, referred to as PDRF, in 2016. The PDRF was produced with the intention of making the recovery process more effective and efficient than previous recovery processes (PDRF, 2016:2).

The recovery vision of the Government of Nepal is: “*Establishment of well-planned, resilient settlements and a prosperous society*” (PDRF, 2016:5). The government of Nepal will secure the realisation of this vision by generating a central policy that is to be implemented decentralised. The “build back better” principle and a people-based approach will function as the foundations for a resilient and inclusive recovery process. The central policy is the Reconstruction and Rehabilitation policy, which brings all relevant actors together. Relevant actors are representatives from the government, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), community based organisations (CBOs), and the international community in general (PDRF, 2016:5). A decentralised implementation will be conducted in the affected districts, where village development committees (VDCs) will be the general stakeholders and responsible for the implementation of the Reconstruction and Rehabilitation policy the way the government has intended. The recovery vision is based on five strategic objectives (see figure 4)

- The five strategic objectives**
1. Restore and improve disaster resilient housing, government buildings and cultural heritage, in rural areas and cities
 2. Strengthen the capacity of people and communities to reduce their risk and vulnerability, and to enhance social cohesion
 3. Restore and improve access to services, and improve environmental resilience
 4. Develop and restore economic opportunities and livelihoods and re-establish productive sectors
 5. Strengthen capacity and effectiveness of the state to respond to the people’s needs and to effectively recover from future disasters

Figure 4: *The five strategic objectives* (PDRF, 2016:6)

The national government of Nepal expects to finish the recovery plan five to seven years after the post-disaster recovery framework was presented (PDNA, 2015:88).

Research Purposes and Questions

Authors in the field of disaster management have proposed the idea of natural disasters being a “window of opportunity” to improved re-development (Joakim & Wisner, 2015:402, Coppola 2011:409, Becker, 2014:161, Thiruppugazh, 2014:18+20, Kapucu & Liou 2014:7, Berke et al. 1993:99, Wisner et al. 2003:37). The idea has become very much embedded in recovery literature and work. However, the idea is based on specific cases and its accuracy is therefore doubtful. Thus, it has been an essential part of this master’s thesis to critically assess the idea.

The research purpose of this master’s thesis is to critically examine if the idea of a natural disaster being a “window of opportunity” to human development has been present in Okharpauwa during the recovery period. Human development is an approach more commonly used by UN agencies such as UNDP (United Nations Development Programme). The human development approach defines development as freedom and expansion of a person’s capabilities (Haq 1998:15, Sen, 2001:4+36, UNDP 2017). This kind of freedom implies a person’s access to several capabilities that dignifies a person’s life and secures a decent way of living. The human development approach will be further outlined in the theoretical framework, chapter two. This master’s thesis is based on the notion that the long-term vision of disaster recovery is human development.

Hence, this research has been compiled with two purposes in mind:

- 1) To gain an understanding of the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa
- 2) To examine the idea of a natural disaster being a “window of opportunity” to improved re-development in shape of human development.

The first purpose was necessary in order to fulfil the second. It was necessary to understand the ongoing recovery process in a specific setting in order to examine the idea of whether or not the Gorkha aftershocks have been a window of opportunity to re-impose an establishment in the shape of human development in Okharpauwa.

The approach in this master's thesis was based on a combination of a conceptual understanding of disaster recovery as a process and the human development approach. Thus, an effort to combine both fields has been made in order to examine the following research question.

Research Question

How can the Gorkha aftershocks be seen as a window of opportunity to human development in Okharpauwa, Nepal?

Sub Questions

In order to answer the research question the following sub questions have been outlined:

- What factors have impacted and challenged the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa so far?
- How have the affected people in Okharpauwa perceived the recovery efforts so far?
- What human development initiatives have been presented in the ongoing recovery process?

The content of this thesis will contribute to both academia and practice. A fieldwork has been conducted in order to obtain empirical data on the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa. It was conducted in collaboration with a local non-governmental organisation: Volunteers Initiative Nepal (VIN). The findings will contribute to the organisation's work in Okharpauwa and provide recommendations in addition to, discovering what challenges and human capabilities or functionings³ they should concentrate on.

Furthermore, recommendations for future research on disaster recovery processes will contribute to academia. The study is relevant because it is attentive to challenges in the ongoing process: finding and understanding these challenges can

³ To be clarified in chapter three, the *functionings* section.

improve future recovery frameworks. Additionally, examining and understanding challenges and impacting factors now, can perhaps prevent them from happening in future disaster recovery processes.

The combination of human development and disaster management is not very common. This master's thesis is also an attempt to investigate how development and disaster management studies can be combined and complement each other.

Clarifications

Frequent terms will be used in this master's thesis, which requires clarification:

- *The Gorkha aftershocks* refer to the aftershocks that happened on the 26th of April, since they were the ones that affected Okharpauwa and not the actual earthquake that happened on the 25th of April 2015.
- The affected inhabitants in Okharpauwa are referred to as “*the affected people*”.
- The term *Wards* refer to nine specific communities in Okharpauwa visited during the fieldwork (see figure 3). A ward in Nepal is a political division; each village development committee consists of nine wards.⁴
- *Temporary shelter* or *transitional houses* indicate the homes that the affected people were living in during the fieldwork. Temporary shelters are small square homes with walls and roofs of tin. A usual temporary shelter consists of one room with a sleeping area and a cooking area. Figure 5 and 6 demonstrate a typical temporary shelter.

⁴ Nepal is divided into seven provinces that consist of 75 districts. The VDCs in each district differ but each VDC consists of nine wards.



Figure 5: *Ward one, 20.03.2017*



Figure 6: *Ward three, 22.03.2017*

Structure

This master's thesis consists of seven chapters. Following this introductory chapter, chapter two presents the theoretical framework inspired by disaster recovery theory and the human development approach. In chapter three, the research process and methods used to collect data are presented. Chapter four presents the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa at the moment the fieldwork was conducted. Chapter five follows an empirical analysis of the affected people's access to five instrumental freedoms from the human development approach. Conclusions, recommendations for future research and perspectives are presented in chapter six and seven.

2. Theoretical Framework

The following chapter will introduce the theoretical framework of this master's thesis and literature that has been inspirational to its foundation. A conceptual understanding of disaster recovery has been generated from disaster recovery

theory. Furthermore, have concepts from human development been outlined in order to explain the capability approach and the use of five instrumental freedoms in the analysis.

Inspirational previous literature

The literature on the combination of post-disaster recovery and human development is limited. Tendencies, however, demonstrate that the combination is becoming more extensive. The majority of such tendencies have been found in doctoral and master theses, which have been an inspiration to this master's thesis.

A main inspirational work has been the doctoral thesis of Erin Joakim "*Resilient Disaster Recovery: A Critical Assessment of the 2006 Yogyakarta, Indonesia Earthquake using a Vulnerability, Resilience and Sustainable Livelihoods Framework*" from 2013. This master's thesis was especially inspired by Joakim's theoretical framework and fieldwork.

Emmanuel Raju's doctoral dissertation: "*Exploring Disaster Recovery: Stakeholder Interfaces, Goals and Interdependencies*" from 2013 also served as inspiration. Raju (2013) combines the field of disaster management and social science with a focus on disaster recovery coordination. The purpose of Raju's work is not similar to this master's thesis but it has contributed with ideas of how to combine disaster recovery theory and social science.

Furthermore, this thesis has been inspired by the work of Yi Fan Chung's master's thesis: "*The Orang Asli of Malaysia: Poverty, Sustainability and Capability Approach*" and its theoretical framework and use of the capability approach.

This master's thesis theoretical framework has also been based on previous literature from the fields of disaster recovery and human development. The two approaches will be explained in the following sections with previous literature.

Disaster Management: The four-phase approach

According to Coppola (2007:10), there are four phases of disaster management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery (see figure 7). The theoretical framework will be centred on a conceptual understanding of the recovery phase.

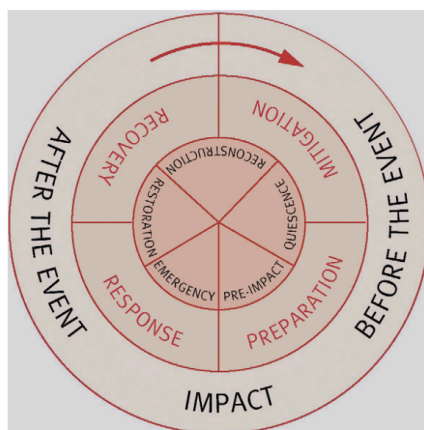


Figure 7: *The four phases in Disaster Management* (Alexander, 2002)

Recovery is the final phase of the disaster management process and this phase generally begins after the immediate response phase is over. The response phase differs from disaster to disaster but as for Nepal and the Gorkha aftershocks, it lasted for around three months. The recovery phase can last from months to years and is a disaster management function that involves returning the affected people back to a state of normalcy (Coppola, 2011:10). Additionally, it is important to remember that all natural disasters differ and so do the affected people and areas. This means that the four phases and functions of disaster management also differ depending on the disaster, area, and people involved.

Disaster Recovery Theory

Disaster recovery can be divided into short- or long-term recovery (see figure 8). Short-term recovery begins with the function of response and almost immediately after the disaster (Coppola, 2011:380). Short-term recovery and response are not to be mixed up; they differ in their objectives. Whilst response is centred on immediate aid and relief, short-term recovery is concentrated on helping the affected with a longer process than response and a shorter one than long-term

recovery. An example of short-term recovery could be building temporary homes for the affected people. This sort of recovery is often uncoordinated and does not contribute to the long-term development of the affected community but rather functions as assistance to the response function (Coppola, 2011:380). This master’s thesis has been concerned with long-term recovery in Okharpauwa because the affected people were in the beginning of this phase during the fieldwork. Long-term recovery usually begins after the emergency phase has ended (response and short-term recovery) and can last for years; in the case of Nepal, the government expects it to last approximately five years (PDNA, 2015 & PDRF, 2016).

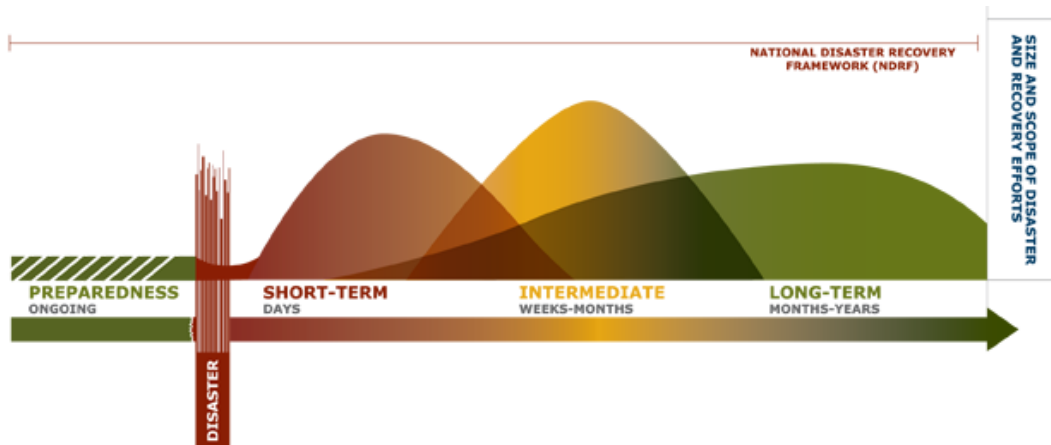


Figure 8: *Recovery Continuum* (FEMA, 2016:5)

A variety of terms is commonly used synonymously with recovery or refer to more specific components of recovery. *Reconstruction* refers to the physical and technical part of rebuilding homes or other physical damaged structures after disasters (Quarantelli, 1999:2). *Restoration* is the statement of: “getting back to normal”, which means re-establishing prior physical and social patterns (Quarantelli, 1999:2). *Reshaping* is about changing the way the things were before the disaster (Smith & Wenger, 2007:239). A final common term within disaster recovery literature is *Rehabilitation*, which refers to a restoration of people rather than physical objects. The term is not entirely related to a restoration since it refers to an improvement of pre-existing conditions, as opposed to returning to pre-disaster condition (Quarantelli, 1999:2).

Disaster Recovery as a Process

There are many different approaches to disaster recovery depending on the setting and the scope of the researcher. An architecture student might use an approach to disaster recovery focused on the reconstruction while an economics student would focus on the financial approach to disaster recovery.

A general approach to disaster recovery is given in the book *Handbook of Disaster Research* from 2007 where Smith and Wenger (2007:237) define disaster recovery as:

*“[...] the differential **process** of restoring, rebuilding, and reshaping the physical, social, economic and natural environment through pre-event planning and post-event actions”.*

This definition implies different approaches to disaster recovery however; Smith & Wenger (2007:237) argues that disaster recovery is a *process*, which is shaped by pre- and post-disaster conditions.

This master's thesis will be based on the approach of disaster recovery as a process driven by human parameters. According to Rubin et al. (1985:15) recovery is a process that can occur at many levels: global, national, local etc. The recovery process to be examined in this thesis will be based on recovery as primarily a local process. Rubin et al. (1985:16+25) argue that there are various independent elements in a recovery process, whereas they focus on three elements that have a substantial impact on local recovery: *leadership, ability to act* and *knowledge*. These three elements are all necessary in order for community recovery to be efficient (Rubin et al. 1985:25).

An essential part of the recovery process is the first element of local *leadership*, which appears in two aspects: 1) the presence of leadership itself and 2) the exercise of leadership (Rubin et al., 1985:28). Leadership provides direction and

motivation and does, therefore, have a large impact on the process.

The second element, *ability to act* does also have an impact on the recovery process since it involves: administrative capability, technical knowledge, and resources, which determine the ability to generate long-term recovery (Rubin et al, 1985:30-31).

The third element; *knowledge*, is based on Rubin et al.'s study of 14 cases where previous knowledge and experience had a large impact on the recovery process (Rubin et al, 1985:32). Local leaders and communities with previous experience and knowledge of disaster management were experiencing a more efficient recovery. A more efficient recovery is according to Rubin et al. (1985:25) consistent of: "*greater speed and less cost in terms of personnel and material assistance*". The framework of the three impacting elements can encourage government officials to assess the recovery process.

Summarizing the above entails that when referring to the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa it is the definition of: a long-term local-based process in terms of rehabilitation. The approach to disaster recovery is therefore based on the belief that disaster recovery is a process influenced by the pre- and post-disaster conditions, the ability to act, local leadership and knowledge.

The Human Development Approach

The research question is based on the indication of the Gorkha aftershocks being a window of opportunity for human development. It is therefore essential to explain what is meant by human development.

What is Human Development?

The development discourse has been focused on economic development, based on

the notion that economic growth as the principal means to development (Kohli, 2004, Rist, 2008, Desai & Potter, 2014). Economic growth is mainly concerned with the expansion of income while human development embraces all human choices and expansion of economic, social, cultural and political capabilities (Haq, 1998:14). According to Haq (1998:15), human development includes two dimensions:

1. The formation of human capabilities. Examples of such capabilities could be knowledge, health, civil rights, skills, income etc.
2. The use people make of their capabilities that involve the more active and practical perspective of, for example employment, political affairs, leisure etc.

The two dimensions demonstrate that the human development approach acknowledges that there is much more to life than economic growth (UNDP, 2017, Sen & Haq). Human development is concerned with people's general wellbeing: happiness, satisfaction, rights, opportunities, freedom of choice, etc. (UNDP, 2017). The theoretical framework has mainly been inspired by Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen's notion of human development and the capability approach (CA) as an assessment framework.

The Capability approach

An essential part of Sen's work is the capability approach (CA), which refers to evaluating human's wellbeing in order to create meaningful and fulfilled lives (Alkire, 2005:19). This approach is based on the viewpoint of human life as a set of doings and beings (Sen, 2003:4). The essentials of the CA is that human development is an expansion of the capabilities that people value being or doing, hence the CA is the evaluative tool or framework for human development (Alkire et al. 2008:5). This master's thesis' fieldwork is among other things based on the

affected people's access to the capabilities they value. Sen's capability approach will be presented through the following concepts:

Development

Sen (2001:36) defines development as: “*a process of expanding the real freedoms that people enjoy*”. The objective of development is thus an expansion of people's capabilities (Alkire et al., 2008:5). Expansion of freedom is understood as the *primary end* and *principal means* to development (Sen, 2001:36). Individuals are considered the actual subjects of development, both the ends and means of development (Deneulin, 2008:107). This means that development is to be achieved through the free agency of individuals and can be assessed in terms of whether the freedoms/capabilities that individuals have are enhanced (Sen, 2001:4, Deneulin, 2008:107).

Freedom

The concept of freedom within human development is understood as the: “*ability of an individual to achieve valuable doings and beings she has reason to value*” (Chopra & Duraippah 2008:363). The freedom-centred perspective suggests that one concentrates on happiness in a human life and not just on resources or income as other economic development approaches do (Sen, 2001:24). The concept of freedom is connected to wellbeing, functionings, and capabilities.

Wellbeing

In contrast to Utilitarianism and Rawls, who compare wellbeing with welfare and primary goods, Sen associates wellbeing with an individual's opportunities to act freely and being able to choose (Lelli, 2008:312). Wellbeing or the quality of life is, therefore, a (individual) value judgment, which cannot be fixed or dictated. Indeed, consensus on wellbeing can be found, whereas this master's thesis refers to wellbeing or quality of life as people's opportunities and freedoms to choose the life they value. Sen (1985:203) describes wellbeing in terms of functionings and the capability to achieve them.

Functionings

The concept of functionings: “*reflects the various things a person may value doing or being*” (Sen, 2001:75), hence the achievements of a person: what a person manages to do or to be (Sen, 2003:5). Examples of functionings include personal states such as happiness or activities that a person values such as eating or a more complex activity, such as being able to freely express his/her opinions. Sen does not provide a definitive list of basic functionings because different functionings will be relevant to different groups and settings (Alkire et al. 2008:2). Functionings is a relevant concept because it insinuates an interest in what people are actually able to do or to be (Alkire, 2005:6).

Freedom as Capabilities

Capabilities refer to an alternative combination of functionings (doings and beings) that is possible for a person to achieve (Sen, 2001:75). A capability has similarities with a freedom; it reflects a person’s freedom or opportunities (Alkire et al., 2008:2). Capabilities are the freedom to achieve various lifestyles; they reflect a person’s freedom to choose between different ways of living (Lelli, 2008:313). Sen describes capabilities as a kind of freedom: “*the substantive freedom to achieve alternative functioning combinations*” (Sen, 2001:75). Sen’s notion of capabilities as substantive freedoms and the reasoning that capabilities can be used to analyse the quality of a person’s life (Alkire et al. 2008) are the foundational pillars for this master’s thesis theoretical framework. Subsequently, the analysis will be an examination of the affected people’s access to five specific capabilities, hereunder five instrumental freedoms and certain underlying functionings.

The capability approach (CA) assesses the importance of the various functionings in human life, hence: “*The functionings have to be examined and the capability of the person to achieve them has to be appropriately valued*” (Sen, 2003:4-5). Hence, the CA can be used in practice to examine people’s wellbeing.

All of the above-mentioned concepts are influential in the CA and can be used in the examination of an individual's wellbeing. Figure 9 demonstrates how the concepts are connected:

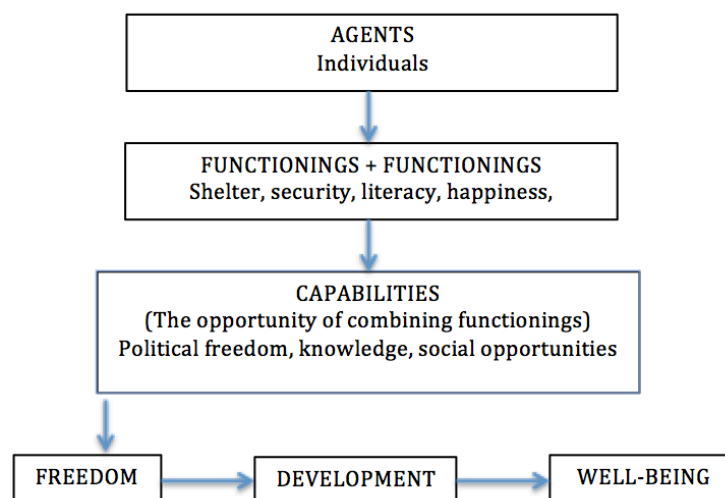


Figure 9: Concepts in the Capability Approach

The figure demonstrates that people are viewed as agents that can have access to functionings. Capabilities are a set of functionings and involve the opportunities to choose one's own way of living. Capabilities are aligned with freedom, which is the means and ends to development. Freedom as development will essentially lead to a person's wellbeing. (Sen, 1992 & Sen, 2001)

Incompleteness

The capabilities approach (CA) is still a paradigm in the making and there is space for improvements or alterations. Critics have mainly been occupied with the "incompleteness" and difficulty of how to operationalise the CA; mainly that Sen has not specified which capabilities are basic and designed a comprehensive framework (Alkire, 2005:11-13).

Sen has been explicit from the beginning that the CA is not a complete theory and that functionings, as well as capabilities, shall not be specified (Sen, 1992:48-49). The reason hereof is Sen's insistence on open valuation; however, there are many different implications of values. Open valuation is problematic because what one

values, another might not and then who is to decide on the final valuation? Also referred to as a “clash of values”, which is the reason for many disputes in the world today. It is difficult to operate the CA if the agents cannot agree on what is valuable “being and doing” or what they value as freedom? The CA is an agent/individual based approach but agents are also dependent on other agents or organisations, where they might experience a clash of values.

Sen has appropriately left the CA incomplete because it is up to the individual agent to identify what he/she finds valuable “doing or being” and by this approach it would not be possible to specify a set of capabilities. In accordance to this master’s thesis, the flexibility of the CA has been an advantage mainly because of the abductive research strategy (see chapter three).

A Tentative Framework - The five Instrumental Freedoms

Expansion of freedom is both 1) the primary *end* and 2) the principal *means* to development or as Sen designates them as 1) the constitutive role and 2) the instrumental role (Sen, 201:36).

The constitutive role involves the importance of substantive freedoms. Freedoms such as opportunities, rights, and entitlements are constitutive parts of development.

The constitutive role, therefore, refers to the *intrinsic* importance of human freedom as an objective to development, whereas the instrumental role refers to the effectiveness of different kinds of freedoms as promotion to human freedom (Sen, 2001:37).

The instrumental role is the means to development and is concerned with the way that different opportunities, rights, and entitlements contribute to the expansion of human freedom (Sen, 2001:37).

The instrumental role includes instrumental freedoms, which can contribute directly or indirectly to people's overall freedom (Sen, 2001:37). The diversity of the instrumental freedoms is quite extensive. However, Sen has identified five distinct types of freedom worth emphasising:

1. Protective security
2. Political freedom
3. Economic facilities
4. Social opportunities
5. Transparency guarantees

The given five instrumental freedoms function as a help to focus on some particular policy issues in demand of attention, in this master's thesis the Reconstruction and Rehabilitation policy from the PDRF. The five freedoms not only contribute to the general capability of a person but they also serve to complement one another (Sen, 2001:38). The five instrumental freedoms have been used in the fieldwork and the analysis in order to examine the affected people's access to some specific functionings chosen during the fieldwork.

Protective security is an instrumental freedom that is needed to provide safety in case of emergencies such as starvation, famine, crises etc. Protective security often consists of institutional arrangements that for example, provide unemployment benefits, famine relief, economic support etc. (Sen, 2001:40). In general, it is a social safety net to prevent 'unhappiness' among the population. The freedom of protective security has been essential in this thesis since it is based on the fact that the Gorkha aftershocks happened. The post-disaster recovery framework and assistance as functionings have been examined in relation to the affected people's access to protective security in Okharpauwa.

Political freedoms refer to the political opportunities that people can have including civil rights (Sen, 2001:38). The political freedoms will give the people

the right to express themselves, to criticize authorities, uncensored press and to determine the ruling government and on what principles (Sen 2001:38). This master's thesis has examined political freedom by looking at the functionings of the affected people's right to freedom of speech and voting.

Economic facilities refer to the freedom for individuals to utilise economic resources for purpose of consumption, production or exchange (Sen 2001:39). Individuals are dependent on economic resources and the distributions of such are important, i.e. how national income and wealth should be distributed and provide facilities for individuals make a difference in people's substantive freedoms. The fieldwork was concerned with the affected people's economic facilities after the Gorkha aftershocks, where the following functionings were examined: loans and job opportunities.

Social opportunities refer to societal arrangements or facilities that influence the individual's substantive freedoms to live a better life (Sen, 2001:39). Examples of such social opportunities can be health care, education, humanitarian aid groups based on volunteerism, social clubs, public art festivals etc. These arrangements or facilities not only contribute to improved private living, they also demonstrate, for example, the fact that being a part of a larger social arrangement brings joy and meaning to one's life (Sen, 2001:39). During the fieldwork in Okharpauwa, the following functionings within social opportunities were examined: free education and health.

Transparency guarantees are assembled to trust. We live in societies with social interactions where people are interacting on basic presumptions of trust (Sen, 2001:39). The instrumental freedom of "transparency guarantee" therefore refers to people's expectations in relation to openness and honesty: "*the freedom to deal with one another under the guarantees of disclosure and lucidity*" (Sen, 2001:39). The quote might refer to a more individual approach to transparency guarantee but it does also involve the deal between a person and an institution. This master's thesis has studied the functionings of interaction and trust between the affected

people and the local government in Okharpauwa.

Operationalisation

The theoretical concepts have been applied in the analysis in order to answer the sub questions and examine the research question.

The conceptual understanding of disaster recovery as a process has been used in order to gain an understanding of the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa after the Gorkha aftershocks, as well as, examining the recovery so far.

In an effort to understanding the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa, the three elements in community recovery have been utilised: *leadership, ability to act & knowledge*. Household interviews, focus group interviews and two interviews with local political leaders demonstrate whether the three elements were present in the recovery process in Okharpauwa and if so; how they were included in the process.

The capabilities approach (CA) has been used as a framework to assess human development in Okharpauwa. The CA concepts are foundational to the understanding of how the CA functions and what it implies. The concepts of the CA have not been applied directly to the findings in the analysis since they are more of a foundational explanation of the CA.

Thus, the five instrumental freedoms have been applied to the findings in the analysis. These were taken as given by Sen without examining the process of deriving and arriving at such formulation, mainly because they were adaptive to the fieldwork. The affected people's access to the five instrumental freedoms: protective security, political freedom, economic facilities, social opportunities and transparency guarantee have been examined during the fieldwork. The instrumental freedoms involve many functionings and the ones clarified above in the "tentative framework" section have been chosen (see figure 10).



Figure 10: *The five instrumental freedoms and their functionings*

Functionings within each instrumental freedom were chosen to exemplify the freedoms to the informants and to narrow the capacity of each instrumental freedom.

Delimitations

Both, the disaster recovery and human development approach have been delimited since they have functioned as a framework to this master's thesis. The concepts relevant to answering the research question and sub questions have been selected, whereas other parts not relevant have been left out.

This master's thesis' theoretical framework has mainly been delimited because of limited resources such as manpower, time, and space. Access to those resources would for example, have made an investigation of the constitutive role in the recovery process possible.

The fact that the recovery process has not finished yet delimits the use of concepts within human development since the approach is assigned to long-term development evaluation on all levels: local, national and international. The thesis is limited to a local level and in the timeframe of the two years that have passed since the Gorkha aftershocks happened.

3. Research Methods

The following chapter will give an overview of the social research methods used to collect the data. This master's thesis would not have been possible without the fieldwork and use of qualitative methods.

Methodology

This master's thesis foundation has been inspired by critical realism (CR). The approach has an ontological realism based on the belief that reality is independent and partly open (Buch-Hansen & Nielsen, 2012:280). It, therefore, has an ontological depth in which the world is not only observable but there are also underlying structures and open systems that might not be visible (Sayer, 2000: 11).

The CR approach seeks to explain and criticise social paradoxes, crises, or empirical regularities (Buch-Hansen & Nielsen, 2012:307). The purpose of this thesis was to examine the idea of natural disaster being a window of opportunity to improved re-development, an empirical regularity based on previous case studies in disaster recovery literature. Such purpose is contradictive to this thesis' entire process and existence because this thesis is based on a single case and assesses an idea based on case studies. An argument against this is that the purpose is only to assess the idea not verify or falsify it. Hence, this thesis is a critical assessment of the idea and accentuates its flaws but it does not consider its entitlements.

Furthermore, CR's relation to theory, practical methodology, and interdisciplinary research approach has been inspirational. This thesis is interdisciplinary since it combines the fields of disaster management and human development. CR originated as a confrontation to positivism, whereas human development evolved as an opposition to traditional economic development.

The CR approach emphasises the use of abduction, which is the research strategy of this thesis and will be outlined in the following section.

Research Strategy - Abduction

The research strategy is inspired by the abductive approach, which implies looking for underlying mechanisms or reasons behind the empirical observations (Pedersen, 2013:152). Abduction differs from the traditional deductive and inductive approaches by its process.

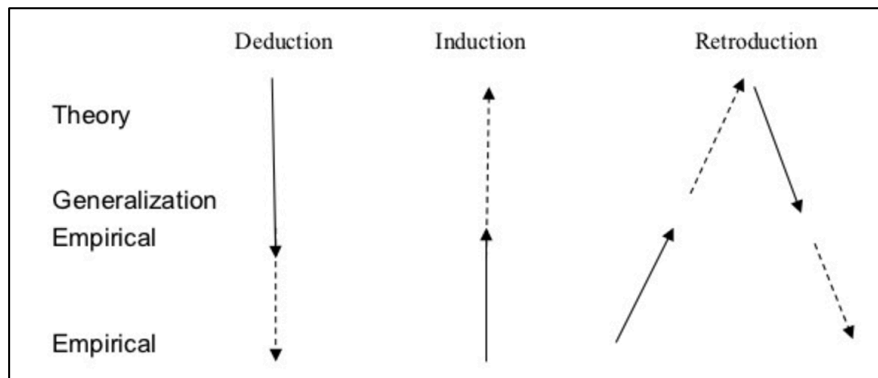


Figure 11: *The deductive, inductive and abductive approach* adopted from Alvesson, M. & Sköldberg, K. (2007).

Figure 11 is adopted from Alvesson, M. & Sköldberg, K. (2007, who uses the term retroduction which can be aligned with abduction when it comes to the process of the two strategies. This is why this particular model has been chosen to demonstrate how the research strategies' process differs. This master's thesis methodological process can broadly be divided into the following steps:

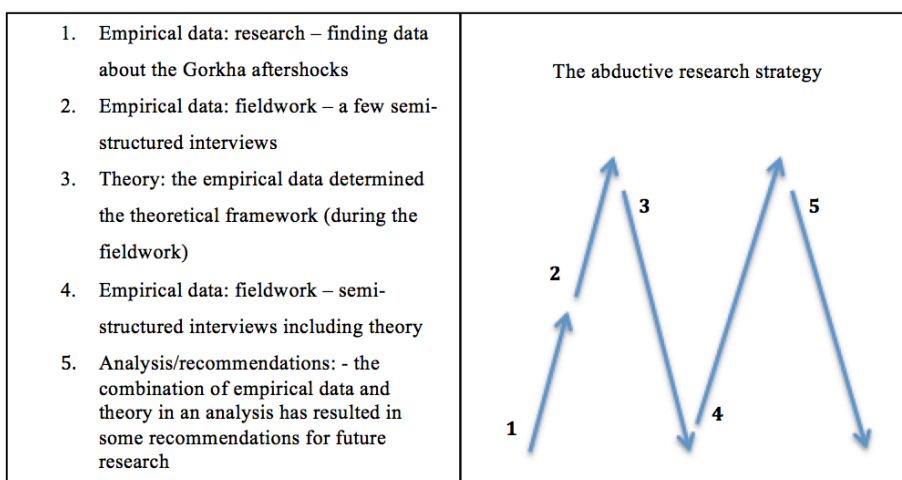


Figure 12: *The abductive research strategy in this master's thesis*

Using the abductive research strategy, the researcher will look at everyday lives and seek to explain the patterns of people's everyday behaviour; which is, among other things, what has been done in the fieldwork (Ong, 2012:423+24). The abductive research strategy has therefore been suitable for this thesis.

Research Design - Case study

The thesis is based on a research design of case study. The ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa has been analysed, which is why case study design was essential to this thesis. A case is often associated with a specific location and an intensive examination thereof (Bryman, 2012:67). A case study refers to the researcher being interested in the complexity and nature of one or more cases (Bryman, 2012:66). This thesis is based on an intrinsic case study, which means it is focused on one specific case and goes into depth with this because it wants to understand and demonstrate the case's complexity (Stake, 2005:445). Case studies can be used to generalise, such cases are defined as instrumental (Stake, 445). The purpose of this thesis is not to generalise but to understand the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa and critically assess an idea that originates from instrumental case studies. Okharpauwa, as a case study is therefore intrinsic and not instrumental.

Case selection

The Gorkha earthquake and its aftershocks have affected districts in Nepal differently and Okharpauwa has consequently been chosen for various reasons.

One of the main reasons was that Volunteers Initiative Nepal (VIN), the organisation collaborated with during the fieldwork, works in Okharpauwa. The organisation has various projects in Okharpauwa, including disaster relief and reconstruction projects. Choosing a site where the organisation is recognized eased the work of finding potential informants and gaining access to the field. What I found very interesting was the fact that: Okharpauwa was affected by the Gorkha aftershocks but not as much as various other communities. Compared to

those, the recovery process was slower and less effective in Okharpauwa (Political leader2: 14:48). I, therefore, wanted to attain more knowledge of the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa in order to comprehend what challenges the affected people were facing and also to discover why the recovery in Okharpauwa had been less efficient so far.

Another reason was that the recovery had not finished. There are few studies of disaster recovery processes and even less of the ongoing process; most studies are focused on evaluating the recovery process when finished. If I had chosen a case where the recovery had finished, the outcome would be different. It would have been an evaluation of a recovery rather than gaining an understanding of a complex phenomenon, such as a recovery process.

Case studies – a scientific research design?

Case studies, as a research design, have often been criticised for being too specific and focused on practical knowledge, which means it can be difficult to generalise from case studies. Case studies can therefore not contribute to scientific progress (Flyvbjerg, 2010:465). The purpose of the thesis is not to generalise or test a hypothesis; it is to examine an idea with demonstrations from ongoing recovery in Okharpauwa. One might question if the purpose of the thesis is scientifically relevant since its purpose is non-generalising. Flyvbjerg (2010:471) argues that non-generalising case studies are just as important as generalising case studies. This case study will contribute to new knowledge on the development and disaster recovery field. The results from the thesis and its specific case might not be applicable to other cases but it will contribute with knowledge, understanding, and hereby recommendations to future practical and theoretical research.

Research Methods – Qualitative methods

The data in this thesis has been collected with qualitative methods, which entails a qualitative research. Such a research is often associated with words and understandings of the social world through interpretations and interactions (Bryman, 2012:380). This master's thesis has been produced with the use of the following qualitative methods.

Semi-structured Interviews

Semi-structured interviews are suitable for obtaining knowledge about humans' life, opinions, and experiences (Tanggard & Brinkmann, 2010:29). According to O'Reilly (2009:125), interviews are in-depth conversations between the researcher and the informant; conversations with structure and purpose (Kvale & Brinkmann, 2009:19). The purpose of semi-structured interviews is to collect descriptions of the informants' world and/or life in order to interpret the meanings of the described phenomena (Kvale & Brinkmann, 2009:19). Semi-structured interviews produce knowledge through social interactions between the researcher and the informants (Tanggard & Brinkmann, 2010:42, Kvale & Brinkmann 2009:100).

The most suitable method to fulfil this thesis' purpose was to gain an understanding of the ongoing recovery process by interviewing people who had experienced it. The people involved were able to provide impressions, perceptions, understanding, and knowledge from the first-hand experience.

A total of 24 household interviews were conducted from the 20th of March to the 10th of April 2017 in Okharpauwa, Nepal (see appendix 1). The interviews were conducted in nine different wards with approximately two to three household interviews in each ward (see figure 3). The purpose of the household interviews was to gain an understanding of the affected people's experience with the ongoing recovery process as well as examine their access to the five instrumental freedoms after the Gorkha aftershocks.

Sampling

Sampling involves selecting a group that can represent a broader set (O'Reilly, 2009:194). The informants were randomly sampled but with a few restraints in mind: they should live in Okharpauwa and be a part of the recovery process. The wards were visited daily and potential informants were found together with the gatekeeper. The matrix in appendix 2 gives an overview of the household informants.

Gatekeeper

A gatekeeper is: “*a person who has the means to facilitate contacts between the researcher and the subject/object to be researched*” (Eklund, 2010:129). There are two sets of gatekeepers according to Eklund (2010:131): those who facilitate access to the field and those who facilitate access to informants. VIN functioned, as the first gatekeeper since they secured access to the field, whereas Deepak referred to as “gatekeeper”, was the local gatekeeper who facilitated access to the wards and the informants. The gatekeeper worked in VIN's reconstruction and relief programs in Okharpauwa, he knew some of the informants or their relatives and was able to provide me with knowledge about the recovery process.

There are both advantages and disadvantages in accordance to the use of gatekeepers (Eklund, 2010). A gatekeeper can open doors to a field otherwise non-accessible for the researcher but the gatekeeper is also indirectly in a position to decide what data is to be collected where and when (Eklund, 2010:130).

The gatekeeper influenced the work by choosing potential informants; however he always asked if they were relevant or not. All the people were willing to participate and one of the reasons hereof is that they knew and trusted the gatekeeper. Another advantage was that the gatekeeper could provide information about the field because of his origin. He explained about the different caste systems and how the wards differ culturally, socially and economically, information that would have been difficult accessing elsewhere. The disadvantage

of the gatekeeper would mainly be the selection of informants (most of them are young like the gatekeeper) and the language barrier.

Language barrier

I experienced a language barrier during the fieldwork since I cannot speak Nepali and the informants did not speak English. The gatekeeper translated during the interviews; however, his English was limited, which resulted in questions and the answers being flawed. Whilst doing interviews there are many questioning techniques especially for questions concerned with emotions. Unfortunately, it was difficult to use these techniques because of the language barrier, which resulted in hesitant informants whilst talking about emotions. Certain answers were also less content-rich than expected. The meaning of the gatekeeper's translations was understandable because of the context; however, it would have been beneficial to have more precise translations.

Focus groups

The difference between focus group and group discussions is that focus groups are often intentional and purposeful whereas group discussions are non-planned conversations in daily life (O'Reilly, 2009:78). This master's thesis has been written with the notion of focus groups as planned discussions and not in the traditional matter of prescriptive size, nature, management, and purpose of focus groups.

Two focus groups of approximately ten people were conducted and the informants were randomly sampled. The only two things the informants had in common were: 1) they lived in the same ward and 2) they had experienced the Gorkha aftershocks. The reason for conducting the focus group discussions was mainly to answer the sub question of the affected people's perception of the recovery efforts so far. The focus group informants were able to discuss the recovery efforts in an open forum, which resulted in information from a group and not only individual opinions.

Participant Observations

Participant observation is a qualitative method and its purpose is for the researcher to learn about the lives of the people he/she is interested in through experiences in their daily lives (O'Reilly, 2009:150). Participant observations was an essential method to conduct data for this master's thesis since it gives an insight into the daily lives of the informants, a cultural understanding and visualises how the affected people recover after the Gorkha aftershocks.

Access and barriers

First of all, I had to consider how to gain access to the field (O'Reilly, 2009:5). Multiple organisations in Nepal were contacted and eventually, Volunteers Initiative Nepal (VIN) agreed to collaborate. The main barrier to access was the fact that I was not able to stay in Okharpauwa, mainly because of the post-disaster conditions. Almost all families are living in temporary shelters and could not accommodate an extra person in their temporary home. This meant that I could not observe the affected people in Okharpauwa continually.

Furthermore, some of the wards were very difficult to access, mainly because of road conditions. I did not access ward four because it was too far to reach on motorbike in one day. The gatekeeper, therefore, found informants from ward four in ward one. This meant that I was not able to observe the conditions in ward four but had to rely on information from my gatekeeper and the informants.

Another barrier was my own condition. I went to ward six but was only able to conduct one household interview because of altitude sickness. The ward is located in the mountains (approximately 4000m) and I ascended too fast. Eventually, I managed to get, at least one, household interview from each ward with a few alterations.

Position

The observations were made during the fieldwork were mainly covert. According to O'Reilly (2009:44), covert research is: *“research that has not gained the full consent, and is not conducted with the full knowledge, of the participants”* whereas overt is the opposite. Observations were only possible whilst conducting the interviews because the homestay was in another village development committee. This meant, that while interviewing in Okharpauwa, the observations were overt since the people knew I was there to do research. I did not inform the people about my observations but they knew I was a researcher because of my foreign look, language, and gatekeeper.

I was able to do covert observations in the homestay and when travelling around Nepal (I went to Kathmandu in the weekends to transcribe and get internet access for further research). In Kathmandu, the locals mainly saw me as a tourist and not a researcher, which resulted in random conversations about the recovery process and observations of many construction sites. I found the observations in Kathmandu usable even though my research was narrowed down to the site of Okharpauwa. They gave an insight to the general recovery, culture, and human behaviour in Nepal.

Reflections

Conducting research in a field that involves human beings or living things usually involves some ethical dilemmas. Before the fieldwork started, I took a considerable amount of time to reflect, mainly because I would interview people that had gone through a traumatising experience and the interviews, therefore, might be a fragile situation for them. The following sections describe some of my ethical considerations before, during and after the fieldwork as well as general reflections on the fieldwork.

Researcher's role

A researcher has a large responsibility to the research project but most importantly to the informants. Blommaert and Jie (2010:22) argue that the research object is always a uniquely situated reality, which implies that it is not possible to predict all potential challenges and situations in the field. Even so, a researcher has to be aware and reflective of ethics, potential consequences, confidentiality, and reflect upon potential negative outcomes.

There is a distinction between the researcher and the informants in a fieldwork, hence the power or status of a researcher (Brinkmann, 2010:444). The researcher determines the topics to be discussed and the informant simply has to participate in the setting the researcher has pre-determined.

I often experienced the distinction between the researcher and the informant during my fieldwork in Okharpauwa. During the fieldwork, I felt that the informants saw me as a researcher, not a friend, family or acquaintance but a complete stranger who was there to ask them some questions. I tried to give the informants, the impression of the interviews being a pleasant conversation between them and me. In general, the informants agreed to such arrangement and they often seemed amused or grateful for the interviews. I had the impression, that the informants determined my research as a potential outreach for them since they believed it could function as a tool of correspondence between them and the local government, NGOs or the international community.

Informed consent

In preparation for the fieldwork, I had prepared consent forms for all of the interviews that I expected to conduct. These described the research and the potential consequences of participating. However, in the field, I only used the consent forms for the two expert interviews. I asked my gatekeeper and together we decided to offer the informants a verbal translation to allow them to understand and sign the consent forms but all declined this offer. I had to trust in

my gatekeeper and the fact that he gave the informants the option to decline the interview or have the consent form translated.

O'Reilly (2009:59) explains that it is: "*difficult to be informative about a research project that develops as it proceeds*", which has also been the case during the fieldwork. It has been difficult to be explicit about the research whilst explaining it to gatekeepers and informants since I used an abductive strategy. An example was that I had not chosen a theoretical framework in the beginning of my fieldwork and the proposal I sent to VIN was therefore different than the final outcome. I was lucky that VIN was flexible about the research and understood that my strategy was not to be bound by a specific theory if it did not fit in the field.

Confidentiality

I considered confidentiality before the research and decided that I would not use authentic names. The names of the informants have not been transcribed because they are of no relevance to the research. Before all of the interviews were conducted, I received consent to record them, as well as, photograph the temporary homes afterward. All the informants agreed to this and no one seemed responsive to confidentiality. Despite this, the authentic names are only found on the records and kept anonymous for the purpose of security.

Consequences

During the fieldwork, I found that the informants were not worried about being recorded and some were very consistent with me writing down their name. The reason for the informants' openness was the fact that they are in dire need of support. Participating in interviews and telling their story, it might be a possibility to receive more support. However, I had considered the consequences for these people to participate in the research.

The local political leaders that I interviewed would probably experience larger consequences than the household participants. I found that they were not

concerned during the interviews and openly answered the questions raised about problematic issues in the recovery process. One reason for the openness might be that they were used to interviews and felt more confident in answering the questions in a smooth and less opinionated way. On the contrary, I also found that they explicitly explained their personal opinions about the recovery process in Okharpauwa. Hence, they replied the questions with no consequences in mind.

A major concern of mine whilst conducting the interviews, was the fact that some questions were related to traumatic experiences and feelings. Some of the informants that had experienced the aftershocks and its aftermath as traumatic seemed hesitant to talk about it, while others were less touched and more open. I had no intention of harm when asking about the aftershocks and how they felt now but the questions might have generated some bad memories for some of the informants. None of the informants seemed shaken or emotionally touched after our conversation and it seemed that the interviews have not caused any emotional harm to them.

Reflexivity

The concept of reflexivity requires a researcher to think critically of previous and one's own research (O'Reilly 2009:189). I have used the concept of reflexivity in accordance to the collection of empirical data. I have reflected and thought critically about the previous literature I have been inspired by. Though, the most important thing is, that I have been reflective and aware of subjectivity before, during, and after the fieldwork. Blommaert & Jie (2010:71) emphasise the importance of acknowledging subjectivity because they believe that in order for a researcher to be objective, he/she has to be subjective. I wished to be as objective as possible in the field, mainly because I wanted to hear the stories of the informants and not interfere with my own understandings but as previous literature implies, is it impossible to be completely objective (Davies et al. 2010, O'Reilly 2009, Blommaert & Jie 2010, Diphorn 2012, Burawoy, 1998).

I was aware of the fact that before entering the field I had already made: preconceptions, judgments, expectations, and understandings of the field, which I tried to be as conscious of as possible.

Obviously, when I entered the field, many things were not as expected and I found that reality was very different from the literature and preparations I had made at home. I sought to be objective whilst interacting with the informants but as mentioned it was impossible. I had previous knowledge and understandings that I needed to confirm. Consequently, I interfered in certain interviews with my pre-existing knowledge or asked questions about some things I had read before the fieldwork. My interference was mainly productive, a few times it resulted in confusion, mainly from the translator, but otherwise, the informants either confirmed my knowledge or contributed with new knowledge.

Criteria

The above-mentioned reflections are important both in relation to ethical dilemmas and the validity of the research. A master's thesis should contain scientific quality and in order to attain this quality, a trustworthy assessment of all sources has been made throughout the process (Olsen, 2011:193-4). As previously mentioned this thesis has mainly been inspired by approved dissertations but sources have also been used from well-known academic books and journals. Primary sources have mainly been used in accordance to theory and methods.

A major concern was to find substantial and reliable data on Okharpauwa before and after the Gorkha aftershocks. It has been an almost impossible task, which is why most of the information on Okharpauwa is based on the fieldwork and literature from VIN. It was impossible to find updated statistics and only a few reports were written after the shocks.

The primary data in this master's thesis, therefore, originates from the fieldwork and mainly from interviews. Reflections on the informants' reliability and validity

have been made and the outcome was to trust the information, mainly because there were no reasons not to. Both the informants and the researcher gained from the fieldwork; hence the informants would have no reason to implicate false information.

Analytical Methods

The fieldwork resulted in more than 100 pages of data, which needed to be simplified. Coding is a method of reducing larger texts into meanings by looking at codes in one's data (Tanggaard & Brinkmann, 2010:46-7). Hence, I coded the data from before, during and after the fieldwork into themes with the use of both open and focused coding (O'Reilly, 2009: 36-7).

Open coding implies that the researcher is open to new data and experiences that might challenge the initial research focus or take the researcher in new directions (O'Reilly, 2009:37). The themes to be used in the analysis have emerged from open coding, patterns, and specific interview questions. The data was coded into the following themes:

- Impacts
- Living standards
- Culture of the Nepalese
- Opportunities

The themes have been established on the following principles: frequency, statements, literature, and research question.

Focused coding refers to the researcher determining themes before entering the field (O'Reilly, 2009:37). Themes can be related to a theoretical/epistemological framework or previous literature that the researcher has been inspired by. My theoretical framework helped me to determine the following themes and I asked the informants questions about their access to:



Figure 10: *The five instrumental freedoms and their functionings*

These themes are taken from Sen and his given five instrumental freedoms, which were also mentioned in chapter three.

During the fieldwork, functionings emerged and I had to clarify to my gatekeeper and the informants what I meant by “social opportunities”. I have therefore generated certain functionings within the five instrumental freedoms, which were significant in relation to the recovery process in Okharpauwa (see figure 10).

Analytical framework

An attempt of this master’s thesis was to combine the fields of disaster recovery and human development. The analytical framework is, therefore, a combination of concepts from both theoretical fields. A figure has been outlined to demonstrate how the concepts were combined:

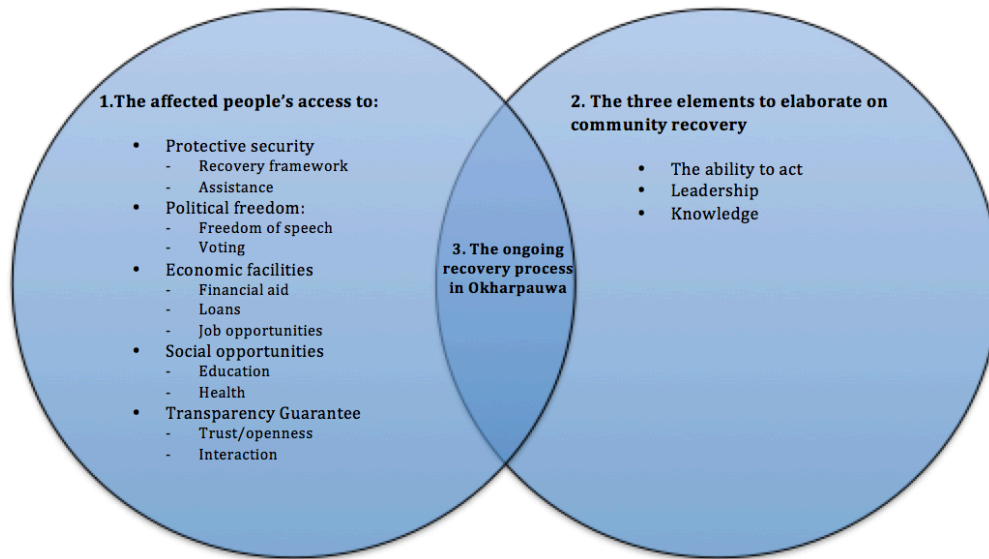


Figure 13: *The combination of theoretical concepts*

Figure 13 demonstrates the analysis' process after the fieldwork.

1. The five instrumental freedoms and their underlying functionings were analysed by investigating at the people's access to them.
2. The three elements from disaster recovery were used to elaborate on why the affected people were limited in their access to some of the functionings.
3. Hence, an investigation of the functionings' and the three element's presence in Okharpauwa outlined the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa.

The research question of examining the Gorkha aftershocks as a window of opportunity to human development in Okharpauwa have been answered by:

- 1) Gaining an understanding of the recovery process with the three elements from disaster recovery: *leadership, ability to act and knowledge.*

2) Using this understanding as a background for examining human development in Okharpauwa and by investigating the people's access to the functionings within the five instrumental freedoms.

The themes and analytical framework have therefore functioned as tools to analyse the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa. The five instrumental freedoms and their functionings have been essential in the analysis of the recovery process as an opportunity or endurance for the affected people. Especially since they have demonstrated whether or not there has been human development in Okharpauwa after the Gorkha aftershocks.

4. The Ongoing Recovery Process in Okharpauwa

The following section will outline the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa at the time when the fieldwork was conducted. This section will therefore seek to answer the sub questions from the introduction and this master's thesis first purpose of gaining an understanding of the recovery process in Okharpauwa (chapter one). The quotes in this chapter and chapter five are from the interviews conducted during the fieldwork. The numbers after each quote refer to the time the quote was stated during the interview (see appendix 1 for an overview of the household informants).

Impacts

A part of understanding the ongoing recovery process is by looking at impacting factors and hereby challenges. The founded impacting factors were divided into personal, material, and social factors.

Personal factors

Whilst conducting the fieldwork it was visible that not only had the aftershocks damaged people's homes but it had also affected people's minds. Recovery can be physical but as implied in the theoretical framework this master's thesis has also elaborated on people's mental recovery, hence the concept of rehabilitation as explained in chapter three. Some of the informants found it difficult to talk about their mental distress after the shocks whereas others were clearer:

"[...] It is not lasted life. So where I am now, because he used to stay in house but now he worry about the house. It is cold in here [referring to temporary shelter]" (Bikash, 11:02).

"She has been worried since the earthquake. When she starts thinking one thing, she is always thinking that. After the earthquake [thinking] more about the things, for example when she is thinking about the animal, then she is always thinking about the animal. She is more aware now" (Rama, 29:23).

“[I am] *worried about the family, the animals, the crops and most importantly mental, the mental is not working properly* “ (Suraj, 28:55).

By mental, the informant meant that his mind was emotionally distressed and could not keep a focus on the tasks at hand but was overthinking and worrying about daily life.

The quotes demonstrate that the informants were more worried after the aftershocks, mainly because there were more things they had to take care of than before. Life conditions had changed, a new earthquake might occur and the affected people would be even more vulnerable than before the Gorkha aftershocks.

The personal factors of worries, thoughts and post-traumatic stress have an impact on the affected people’s recovery process; socially because when an individual is distressed it might be difficult to handle social matters such as taking care of other family members (Suraj, Sunita, Sajit, Sumira) or individually they might find it hard to rehabilitate completely, which also makes it demanding for them to handle material factors.

Material factors

The mentioned material factors that impacted the affected people’s recovery process were money, food, animals, and their house situation.

All the informants agreed that the aftershocks had mainly impacted their life by damaging their homes and that the most difficult thing was to live in a temporary shelter. Informant Nabin highlights that it has not only been problematic for him but for all the affected people:

“Most of the people have to face the problem of where to stay. I think it is not only I, I think it is all the people. Because before the life was very good but now it is very bad for the people [...] so now the people also have no

good places to stay; stay in transitional a house. Tin, when raining the water is leaking, when hot it is was very hot inside. So the living standard is low” (Nabin, 30:45).

The informant explains how uncomfortable it is to live in a temporary shelter. Many of the informants described how it was to live in a temporary shelter, which implies that the affected people were in a phase where they were focused on their house situation. The emergent factors of surviving such as food, clothes, and resources had been restored and the affected people were at the stage of long-term recovery.

One of the informants emphasised how difficult it is to build a new house:

“Making the house is very difficult. Like collecting money, collecting things, it is very difficult” (Padma, 14:38).

The informants, who were in the process of building a new house, did not know when the reconstruction would be finished (Nabin, Bikram, Ganesh & Kesari). Others like Daya expected in a month or two (Suraj, Sajit, Padma). Some of the informants had begun the process of reconstructing or building a house. The local political leader of the Maoist party (Political leader1) presented two reasons for why some people have not started building their houses:

“One is lack of labour, skilled labour. We have an idea of how to make earthquake resistant houses many places people are starting the houses so it is difficult to find the skilled labour” (Political leader1, 05:49).

“Second is money. We don’t have enough money. The government only give like 50.000Rs now and that money is not enough to make the houses. You have to make a plan and start to do the pillar and everything, so that money is not enough and that is why they didn’t start yet” (Political leader1, 06:09).

The local political leader¹ agreed with the informants that the money was not enough for rebuilding the houses but also implied that the affected people would receive more instalment money from the government.

Social factors

Some of the informants described how the community had changed since the earthquake. Mainly because of the damaged houses, which had changed people's behaviour:

“It has changed a lot in the community, not only me. Before people were staying in their house, now everyone is staying in a shelter, it was very difficult to live for everyone” (Dharma, 19:11).

Not only were the individuals struggling with the aftermaths of the aftershocks but also the realisation that the aftershocks impacted the whole community. The fact that all members of the community were recovering has impacted the individual's recovery process. The informants did not think that the atmosphere had changed in the community but somehow they could sense that the members were more worried than before.

“Some people help, like for building, for the shelter, for the food. In the time of earthquake all the community people are staying together and in that time we help but after that all the people had to make their own shelter, so people are involved in their own house” (Focus group¹, 18:16).

In the response period many of the affected people stayed together. An example was ward one where all the affected people stayed in a temporary shelter for one month (Bikash, Sunita). Some of the informants emphasised that in the response period, the community was closer together and helped each other. However, after the transitional shelters were built, everyone focused on their own household. Padam was concerned because others had begun rebuilding and he had not:

“Now the normal day is the same, only the tension with the houses, everybody around the village started to build the houses but I haven’t started that, so I am worried about that” (Padam, 09:01).

A pattern of how far the affected people were in the process combined with their house situation was noticeable during the fieldwork; the affected people’s reconstruction was coherent to the ward they lived in. The affected people who lived in ward one, five, seven and nine were already in the process of building a new house. Still many of them did not know when the new house would be finished, because they were either waiting for materials, manpower, money from the government or other kinds of help.

The fact that the affected people in ward one, five, seven, and nine were further in their recovery process was based on their access to resources, hence their *ability to act*. All the wards are geographically easier to access than some of the other wards such as two, three, and six. Their geographical location makes it easier to bring materials to the wards because they are placed close to a road or as for ward nine, close to Kathmandu (see figure 3). Another impacting factor for the more fluent recovery in ward one, five, seven, and nine is the fact that they are higher in the caste system. Most of the people in those wards are Brahmin, which is higher than the Sudra caste. The people in ward one, five, seven, and nine therefore have more privileges than in for example ward three. The informants did not talk about the caste system, but it is still embedded in Nepali culture and the gatekeeper explained that there was a difference in the nine wards, mainly because some were of higher caste than others.

Differences in the wards were also observed, an example was informant Bikram, who lived in ward five and worked in construction. His family was well fed and wearing more expensive robes than other people observed. The family bought food from a store and had already made the foundation for their new house

(Bikram, 05:09). Observations and conversation with the family gave the impression that this family had a higher living standard than for example informant Padam, whose family had not showered for a while and had a dead cow lying next to their damaged house. Padam's family is Hindu, thus they did not slaughter the cow, it either died of sickness or starvation. The two examples demonstrate that even though the people live in the same village development committee, they have completely different living standards. The people in Okharpauwa are therefore at different levels of recovery because of impacting factors such as the caste system, geography, work and other functionings. The recovery element; *the ability to act* did therefore differ in the wards. Some wards had more resources than others and their recovery so far was more efficient than others.

Living standards

Examining a change in the affected people's living standards gave an insight into how the aftershocks had changed their lives and if the recovery initiatives had helped the affected people by bringing them back to normalcy or even improved re-development.

The informants, focus groups and observations implied that the lives of the affected people had not changed a lot because of the Gorkha aftershocks. The focal change was the fact that all of the informants were living in temporary shelters. Many of the informants also indicated that their daily life was back to normal, except from their house situation (Suraj, Vanita, Rama, Padam, Sajit, Meera, Ganesh, Padma, Vikram, Chandra).

Other informants implied that it was difficult for them to uphold the same living standards as before the aftershocks:

“The most difficult thing is running life normally, so it was difficult to have living standards. Crops doing new things, farming is difficult” (Prajana, 12:15).

This informant described how the aftershocks impacted her daily life by destroying the crops she was about to sell:

“During the earthquake time all the crops were ready to sell but earthquake happened, so all the markets were closed, everything was closed. She had lost almost 2 million Rs from the crops. So now always it is not good. So if I could sell that at that time, I would now have some good, I can run my life, but now nothing like that. Now worse than before” (Prajana, 10:55).

Since the aftershocks, it has been difficult for this informant to recover and achieve the same living standards as before.

On the contrary, other informants described their lives as back to normal except for the fact that they were living in temporary shelters. Their daily life was the same as before the aftershocks, informant Sajit described a normal day after the aftershocks:

“Wake up in the morning, drink some tea, go to the field, work on the house and sometimes I do other work, go to other fields and work for them to get money, two times meal” (Sajit, 12:34).

The quote describes the daily life in Nepal. Agriculture is the main occupation in Nepal and the people are dependent on their crops. The quote also demonstrates where many of the affected people were in the recovery process: they had passed the response and short-term recovery phase. Their daily life was the same as before the aftershocks but they had not fully recovered because they were still living in temporary shelters and were still facing difficulties such as lack of money, lack of food and mental distress.

The Culture of the Nepalese

Some of the informants explained how the Nepalese usually deal with traumatising experiences. As proved above the Gorkha aftershocks have resulted in issues the affected people did not have before and as an aftereffect, many of them were more distressed and worried than before. However, some of the informants emphasised that even though they might worry about their ability to build a new house, they also stressed the importance of “*moving on*”:

“The problem and the worry they never gone up, if we finish this another problem will come” (Suraj, 34:40).

This informant accepted that life continues and one has to deal with the problems without worrying too much about them. Another informant stressed the fact that she was not the only one who was dealing with the consequences of the earthquake.

“We worried, but also worry is not good. Is not only happening to me, it is happening for all the people, so you have to think of all the people” (Rama, 15:58).

Hence, what the informants were inclining was they could not dwell with their problems and worries; they had to continue their life because other people were in the same situation and because worrying would not solve the problems.

The informants’ response to emotions in the recovery process and observations in the field gave a perspective of how the Nepalese psychologically deal with traumatic experiences such as natural disasters and their general culture of showing emotions. The quotes above demonstrate that the informants might worry about their problems but their psychological issues are the last to be dealt with. The basic functionings such as food and shelter were more important for them than dealing with their emotional problems. Informant Vanita (16:17-16:39) was

asked if she had been offered some psychological help after the aftershocks, where to she answered that the government did not provide such things. This put into perspective, demonstrates how the Nepalese are used to handling traumatic experiences. They realise that they do not have the resources to deal with psychological issues but have to focus on surviving.

5. Human Development in Okharpauwa

This master's thesis has been written with the purpose of examining the idea the Gorkha Aftershocks as a window of opportunity for human development in Okharpauwa or not. The following section is an empirical analysis of the affected people's access to functionings within the five instrumental freedoms after the Gorkha aftershocks. Such access will demonstrate if human development was present in Okharpauwa during the fieldwork and if the aftershocks have made a difference to the households there.

The three elements in community recovery: *leadership, knowledge* and *ability to act* have been used as tools to further elaborate on the recovery process in Okharpauwa.

Protective security

The affected people's access to protective security was essential since the instrumental freedom provides safety in case of emergencies. The other phases of disaster management (mitigation, preparedness, and response) are involved in protective security. However, this master's thesis was written with the interest of the recovery phase and the following section has therefore only been analysed in accordance with the post-disaster recovery framework and assistance.

The Post-Disaster Recovery Framework

The post-disaster recovery framework generated by the national government in 2016 includes five strategic objectives to recovery in Nepal after the Gorkha earthquake and its aftershocks (see figure 4, chapter 1).

The national government has intended the centralised framework to be implemented decentralised. Thus, the local government (VDCs) together with other local organisations are responsible for the implementation. The fieldwork of this master's thesis was conducted in 2017, two years after the aftershocks. The government expects the above objectives to be completed within five to seven years (PDNA, 2015:88). The informants gave a quite different perspective on the recovery so far.

The informants gave their perception of the recovery process in Okharpauwa and especially the focus groups and political leaders gave an insight into the process and how it has proceeded so far. The figure illustrates a proposed timeline of the recovery process in Okharpauwa (see figure 14). The timeline has been based on information from the interviews.

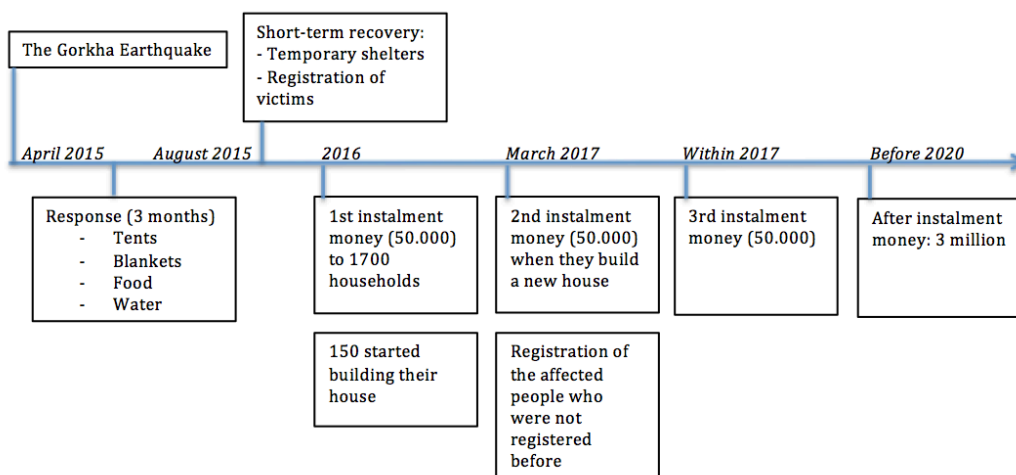


Figure 14: A proposed timeline for the recovery process in Okharpauwa, Nepal.

The proposed timeline demonstrates how the local government expect the recovery process to proceed. The fieldwork was conducted in March 2017, where some of the affected people had received the first instalment money (50.000Rs) and others had not. The timeline is mainly based on information from political leader 1+2 and the informants' economic situation at that time. Thus, the informants were recovering differently and the situation in Okharpauwa, March 2017 was:

- Some affected people were waiting for the second instalment money, for example, informants from ward five and one.
- Some people had received the first instalment money but have not started building a new house and could not receive the second instalment money. Examples could be informant Sajit,

- Some of the affected people had not received any money and there were several reasons for this.

Certain informants emphasised that the assistance had not been distributed fairly because the people who were really affected had not received the instalment money from the government (Raju, Meera, Prajana, Padma, Daya, Ameesh, Vikram). The informants thought that the reason was that the people had not registered for the money. The local political leader from the Nepali Congress explained that the main reason was a “*technical mistake*” (political leader2, 02:42).

“The people who are working in the community didn’t have the technical machines for this, like camera, the government didn’t provide them so due to that they didn’t take the photo to the government and the government can’t give money faster” (Political leader2, 15:57).

The fact that the engineer did not have a camera or filled out the report properly has slowed down the recovery process in Okharpauwa. In accordance with the recovery element “*ability to act*” the VDC was restricted in its technical knowledge and resources. The major restriction was that the engineers who collected data on the affected people made some technical errors such as misspellings or the fact that they did not inform all people of the logistics such as time, place, and what they needed to register. In order for the people to receive the first instalment money they need a land-certificate (Sumira, 11:50), proof of citizenship (Bikash, 08:41) and to be approved by the engineer.

Many of the informants were dissatisfied with the government’s efforts and exemplified how the government could improve the recovery efforts.

“There is no good communication about the things and lack of communication, the people come and bring more and more materials and help the people: some people get the information that they are coming but some people

don't get [the information], so everybody should know when the people are coming" (Meera, 06:41).

A general problem in the recovery process has been the lack of communication and information from the political leaders. Meera emphasised that the people were not informed when the representatives from the local government came with assistance in shape of materials, registration, visits etc.

The lack of communication is the responsibility of the local government and demonstrates that the local *leadership* in Okharpauwa is incapable of performing its obligations. The recovery element of local leadership was, therefore, less apparent and influenced the recovery process in general. In the theoretical framework (chapter three), it was pointed out that a strong local leadership is an affiliate to a more effective and fluent recovery, which has not been the case in Okharpauwa.

The political leader¹ explained how the government has offered to help the people who are not in a possession of a land certificate or the administrative resources to apply for the standard financial aid program:

A group of five people sign a contract, in which they declare their wish for financial aid and guarantee they will build an earthquake resistant house. If the government declare the people for affected and in need of assistance, the people will receive a total of 6 million Rupees, which they do not have to pay back (Political leader 1, 20:55-32:16).

Such agreement has not been offered to any of the informants and they did not seem aware of the possibility.

The informants had mixed opinions about the recovery efforts provided by the local government; some were satisfied and thought that the financial aid had been distributed fairly others were not satisfied. The statements of the informants and

observations in the field gave the impression that the affected people in Okharpauwa had experienced little of what was intended in the PDRF. Their access to recovery was limited to several matters: technical mistakes, lack of communication and information and lack of administrative resources.

Assistance

The affected people in Okharpauwa received assistance mainly in form of tents, blankets, food, temporary shelters, and money. Tents, blankets and food were given to the affected people immediately after the aftershocks. The support came from other Nepalese people who were not affected by the earthquake or aftershocks, Red Cross or other national aid organisations, international organisations, other countries such as India, USA, China, and the national government. Support in the following recovery process mainly came from the national government, international donors and aid organisations.

The informants highlighted the support from the government since it was the contemporary assistance during the fieldwork. Most of the informants had received 10.000Rs which is approximately 100\$ and were waiting for the first “instalment money” which was 50.000Rs. However, many of the informants emphasised that the money was not enough to build a new house. Informant Rama (15:36) estimated that around 400.000Rs would be enough to build a new house. The informants were in general not satisfied with the assistance that the government had provided so far. They stressed that they needed more money to build the house, manpower, materials, and money for basic things such as food, clothes or to pay for education. An example is Padam:

“I use money just for the family, like the house, just to buy some food, give some money to doctor, like that” (Padam, 10:46).

He had used the instalment money for basic supplies because his economic condition before the aftershocks was low and even worse after.

The affected people had limited access to the functioning of *assistance*. Some of the informants had received assistance in the response phase and little assistance in the recovery phase, mostly food or money. Assistance in relation to the traumatic experience many of the people went through was not provided and assistance for other important functionings of recovery had not been provided to the affected people so far.

There has been some access to protective security since the national government has drafted a recovery framework and started assisting the affected people. However, the protective security in relation to recovery has been limited so far.

Political freedom

Some of the informants were hesitant to talk about their access to political freedom, mainly because they did not: “*know of these things*” (Bikash, Bikram, Meera, Ganesh, Daya, Aditi, Chandra). There was a lack of *knowledge* both amongst the affected people and the local leaders. Some of the informants did not have any knowledge of politics and hereby, what is essential to this master’s thesis, recovery rights. The informants explained they had experienced previous earthquakes and aftershocks and mainly knew what to do if an earthquake was to occur. What they lacked in knowledge was their right to recovery assistance and how they should be supported during the recovery period. No one has informed the affected people of their rights to recovery.

Nepal is prone to natural disasters especially floods and landslides, and both the public and the government are accustomed to managing disaster recovery. The government made the post-disaster needs assessment report (PDNA, 2015) after the Gorkha earthquake and its aftershocks in which the “unique Nepali way” is described:

“The people of Nepal have demonstrated considerable resilience in coping with many adversities, and Nepal also has a lot of previous experience in recovery and reconstruction following natural disasters and conflicts in the country” (PDNA, 2015:85).

The recovery process was therefore intended to be supported by the public’s and government’s previous experience and knowledge of disaster management, however, the informants from the fieldwork demonstrated the quite opposite. The informants explained they were accustomed to handling natural disasters but of smaller magnitudes and damage.

The national government has assigned the civil society to be a part of the recovery efforts, however, the affected people have not received any knowledge of disaster recovery; not even the information of where to sign for financial aid. There might be several reasons for the lack of the recovery element *knowledge*; the essential is the fact that it was lacking, which means that the affected people’s recovery was delayed.

Freedom of Speech

Another reason for why some of the informants did not know of politics and their rights to recover, was simply because they had no interest in politics (Chandra, 10:13). Others were more passionate about the political situation in Nepal and expressed freely their opinion about the government’s work in the recovery process, the coming local election and the current political situation (Raju, Nabin, Sumira).

The general opinion amongst the informants was that they could express their opinions freely but no one listened. Some of the informants did not need to talk with political representatives because they were satisfied with their life:

“We are good now, we don’t have to talk with them, we are getting the help, whatever they are distributing, and we are getting it. So we don’t need to talk with them. We are happy” (Aditi, 13:47).

Others were more dissatisfied with the local government and did not feel that they had access to political freedom because the local government did not take their requests seriously:

“[...] The local leader, they don’t give them the chance to speak with the government. They will always help them and they say: ah you stay and I will go there and say these things” (Bikram, 17:52).

“They are listening but they do not do. They come here and see each and every problem but they don’t do anything, only listening” (Focus group2, 15:18).

In general, the informants have been able to express their opinions of the aftershocks, however, they have felt limited in their access to political freedom because no one listens to their requests. Hence, the functioning of being able to express their opinions does not result in any actions and hereby improvements.

This can be seen as a lack of local *leadership* since the local political leaders are the messengers from the people to the national government. Political leader1 explained the process of realising people’s requests:

“They would say to them: you do this, you have to do this for us. And they will go to the government and tell that” (Political leader1, 34:24).

The local leaders listen to the people’s requests and needs and present them in a monthly meeting with the VDC (political leader1, 34:48). The VDC is therefore responsible for realising people’s requests, but there are many pitfalls in the

process. The local leader's ability to act and secure a more profound process of listening to their people should be improved. An improvement would ensure that the people would appreciate the freedom of speech and it would actually be a useful freedom.

Voting

Another functioning of political freedom is the people's access to vote. A local election was to be held at the time the fieldwork was conducted and it was therefore significant. The people that have citizenship and are registered on a "voting-list" can vote in the local elections (Sumira, 43:16). However, some of the informants implied that they would not vote because it would not make a difference:

"No, no change. It is not good with this election, the same will happen. The people from the local government are not good, that is why it doesn't change anything. I think it will not be good – even worse than now" (Raju, 27:44).

"No change, they will not do different, so things we have to do ourselves" (Nabin, 32:06).

The people in Okharpauwa have the freedom express their opinions and can vote but their access to those functionings of political freedom does not necessarily result in freedom. Consequently, the affected people feel that no one attends their requests and their votes cannot make a difference, hence their access to the functionings is redundant. The elements of local *leadership* and *knowledge* have to change for the functionings of voting and freedom of speech to be substantial.

Economic facilities

Many of the informants explained that they had received financial aid from the government but it was not enough (Bikash, Suraj, Vanita, Milan, Rama, Padam, Sajit, Raju, Nabin, Dharma, Prajana, Ganesh, Padma, Daya, Ameesh, Aditi, Kesari, Chandra).

Most of the affected people had received the first instalment money (50.000 Rupees) for reconstructing or building a new home. The instalment money was only offered to those in need and those who had registered properly. As previously mentioned some people had not received the money for various reasons.

The functionings of loans and job opportunities were examined during the fieldwork because they could improve the affected people's economic condition.

Loans

Most of the informants (Bikram, Prajana, Padma, Chandra, focus group1+2) did not have access to loans mainly because they were not in a position of lending money from the bank or relatives. The main reason for this was:

“No loan access, people didn't believe them [...] If somebody gives the loan, for example, if I give a loan to him, he will never pay me back, because he does not have any sources of income” (Bikram, 19:06).

“No, it is difficult, difficult to find loan because local people don't believe they will pay it back again, so it is difficult to take a loan from the people around here” (Chandra, 11:34).

The quotes demonstrate that no one trusted to lend them money because they believed that the affected people would not be in a position to pay them back. Such belief was primarily based on the fact that many of the affected people were in a poor economic situation before the aftershocks. Sadly, many of the affected people were in an infinite circle of limited economic resources, which the aftershocks had made problematic to diminish.

Only a few informants were offered a loan from relatives, which indicate that the affected people in Okharpauwa had limited access to the functioning of loans.

Job opportunities

Job opportunities were chosen as a functioning to analyse because it can improve people's living standard considerably. If the affected people had access to job opportunities their recovery would be relieved since they would have the supplies needed for food, materials, manpower etc. Political leader1 and focus group1 explained that job opportunities had been offered to affected people but not in Okharpauwa.

“They are just offering now, but they didn't get it [the job opportunities]” (Political leader1, 16:47).

Informants (Padam, Sajit, Vikram, Kesari) explained there were no job opportunities in Okharpauwa after the aftershocks. Even though as pointed out by informant Bikram (19:42), who works in construction, there should be a demand for more manpower after the shocks.

In general, the access to job opportunities was limited and even if the people found work it was inadequately paid and the conditions poor. When asked how the informants would improve the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa, some of them emphasised job opportunities:

“If I was in government I would give job opportunities to the people who are really victim from the earthquake, so if the government give them job then they can do something” (Raju, 23:24).

The quotes demonstrate that a job with a proper wage can make a big difference for the affected people, which is why the informants required more job opportunities from the government. The local government (VDC) was aware of this but had not acted upon it yet. The political leaders (1+2) indicated that they were in the process of offering jobs to the affected people, but such indication was not observable at the time the fieldwork was conducted.

An impacting factor in the affected people's ongoing recovery and limited access to economic facilities was their pre-disaster poor economic conditions. Many of the people who live in Okhpauwa are poor and of lower living standards, which are one of the reasons for why people will not lend them money and they have not been offered jobs. Hence, their pre-disaster economic conditions and low living standards reduced the affected people's ability to act. It is the responsibility of the national and local government to secure the affected people's access to economic facilities such as job opportunities, which was not the case in Okharpauwa.

Other elements such as *leadership*, information and pre-disaster conditions had an influence on the ability to act. The local government had not demonstrated leadership in the recovery period so far; the affected people were lacking information that should come from the local government and they also felt that the government was passive and did not take responsibility.

Social opportunities

As mentioned in the theoretical framework (chapter three), social opportunities involve many different kinds of functionings, in the analysis they were narrowed to free education and health. The two functionings gave a minor insight into the affected people's access to social opportunities in Okharpauwa after the Gorkha aftershocks.

Education

Many of the informants emphasised the importance of education (Bikash, Sunita, Vanita, Ranjita, Milan, Rama, Padam, Sajit) and for several reasons:

“Education is important. Education is the background. Because without education we cannot do anything, now we should have more education [...]” (Sunita, 15:29).

“It is important. Education is important, if we are educated we can a get good job. We can do something [...] we learn new things” (Vanita, 26:09).

“It is really important if we can study we can get good opportunities and good place to work” (Sajit, 25:27).

Education is a social opportunity because it can provide people with a larger freedom as also implied in the quote above. However, education is not accessible to all. Most of the informants had only attended school until grade ten; some did not have any education and survived on agricultural knowledge passed on from their ancestors. The reasons why some people did not finish school and began to work instead were the lack of money, time and the fact that they had to pay for education.

Many of the informants stressed that there is no free education in Okharpauwa (Bikram, Dharma, Prajana, Ganesh, Sumira, Ameesh, Vikram, Aditi, Kesari, Chandra, focus group1, focus group2). Even before the aftershocks, they did not have free education. The aftershocks have therefore not impacted the education system in accordance with social opportunities. However, one of the informants stressed that:

“It was good because it happened on a Saturday and all the schools were closed, but 100 % of the schools are cracked or damaged” (Nabin, 23:42).

The aftershocks have therefore impacted the educational system in the sense that many of the schools were damaged and some of them had already been rebuilt as earthquake resistant. The new earthquake resistant schools have provided a safer study environment for the children and professors and hereby improved an essential part of the education.

The quote also gives information about the cultural norm that officially, Saturday is a holiday in Nepal and the children were therefore not attending school. It is believed that it saved many children's life.

Whilst examining the informants' access to education and discovering that education was available but at a cost, it was realised that free education could provide a freedom for many of the informants. Almost all of the informants wanted free education because it would improve their living standards:

“The public is very poor in Nepal so the public should have a free education to all the children” (Raju, 16:38).

“Most of the Nepalese youth are leaving their education because of the economic condition – so the government should have rules of up this level free education [...] level 10, 12 or Bachelor should be free education for the children, so if they have it like this our education percentage would maybe be higher than now” (Nabin, 18:58 +19:14).

The quotes demonstrate a common approach to education in Okharpauwa, which implies that the inhabitants were attracted to the idea of free education. The informants believed that the community would be improved and their children would have more freedom to choose. One of the informants (Meera) attended university but:

“There is no time to go, to go continue studies. I want to do but there is no time for me” (Meera, 15:04).

The quote demonstrates one of the main reasons for why the people do not continue their studies. This informant was a housewife with a child, who had to take care of the house, crops, and child whilst the husband was working in Kathmandu.

Other informants like Nabin and Ganesh argued that the young people find jobs more attractive and economically giving than attending school:

“Because of money they leave their education and involve in driving or other jobs... For all the universities it is free. If they provided a big discount for the public it should help” (Nabin, 19:54).

An issue is, therefore, that even though, some education might be free the young generation often find other reasons for not to study such as the cultural reason for starting a family at an early age or the economic reason for working to earn money fast. These reasons are embedded in the Nepalese culture and might be difficult to change.

The political leaders agree with the fact that there is no free education in Okharpauwa. Political leader2 thought that it would be possible to introduce free education but the initiative has to come from the national government.

“Yes, there it is possible from the government side if the government want – they can” (Political leader2, 48:23).

There are therefore various struggles with the access to free education for the affected people in Okharpauwa; the cultural behaviour and the fact that the national government has to take the initiative. There is a lack of *leadership* in this situation. Both of the local political leaders emphasised the importance of highly qualified and free education, however, they seemed reluctant to change the educational system in Okharpauwa at the moment. Hence, education was not the top priority for the local leaders at the moment.

Health

Health and free education were two functionings, which were often discussed simultaneously. Both functionings were important to the informants mainly because there was no access to either. Medicine and medical attention was offered after the aftershocks but only to some. Certain informants heard that various affected people had received medical care but none had been offered to them (Suraj, Sumira, Ameesh, Vikram). The access to medical care and general hygiene was therefore limited.

Ward five and seven are located close to a medical center where they can receive medical advice and medicine. However, almost none of the informants in ward five and seven trusted the medical center and its expertise:

“If the people have a headache they give different medicine [...] they never go there, they have been there but they didn’t give good care”
(Bikram, 14:46).

The health center is there but not for much use if the people do not trust in its service.

The Gorkha aftershocks have changed the health situation in Okharpauwa, in the sense that almost all of the affected people live in shelters. The informants emphasised that it was difficult for them to maintain a certain standard of sanitation when for example five people slept, cooked, ate and lived in the same room (Bikash, Sajit, Raju, Nabin). The access to better health has therefore been reduced after the aftershocks. Many of the informants had experienced sickness or mental illness and had not received any medical assistance.

In accordance with the community recovery elements, there was a lack of all three; *leadership, ability to act* and *knowledge* in relation to free education and health.

The local leaders did not provide any medical assistance to the affected people; hence they have not eased the recovery. The local leaders have mainly followed the national recovery framework, which according to them, has been focused on “building back better”, reconstructing homes as earthquake resistant. Projects such as free education and improved health have been paused. Health has become a larger issue after the aftershocks and the community has experienced loss because of no attention to the affected people’s mental health (political leader2, 31:43).

Knowledge of how to maintain proper health has been offered to the affected people. Not in the capacity needed, but local organisations did provide information about health and hygiene after the shocks (VIN, political leader1). The informants were mainly aware of how to maintain proper health, however, they found it very difficult when living in shelters. Knowledge has therefore been provided but not enough and not to all. The main reason for not providing knowledge, medical supplies and attention has been because of the lack of resources from the local government, hence their ability to act was limited. Resources such as money, medical supplies, teachers have been difficult for the local government to access and offer to the affected people.

The local government’s resources are limited and have been concentrated on the framework from the national government, which apparently pays no attention to health issues but only reconstruction.

Transparency guarantee

The informants were very passionate about the functionings within the transparency guarantee freedom. The instrumental freedom of transparency guarantee includes many functionings, where as the following were selected for this master’s thesis: Trust, openness and interaction.

Trust and openness

The informants had different perspectives of the local government and how trustworthy it was. Informant Padma, Ameesh and Kesari trusted a little or completely in the government, whereas others trusted in the local government because they did not have other options:

“Sometimes when they give some things, we trust them [...] I think that the leaders now, we have to trust them because they are saying they will give us money to make the houses, so we have to trust them, there is no any other option [...]” (Dharma, 22:17).

The fact that the affected people did not have other options than trusting the local government, demonstrates the imbalance between the government and the people. The people have political rights, however, they do not seem to be at an advantage. The local leaders try to gain the people’s trust through local elections, though it has been 20 years since the last election. The people have therefore been forced to trust in the local government and its representatives. The local elections held in May 2017 and again in September 2017 could be a change for politics in Nepal. The politicians would have to campaign and gain the trust and votes from the people again. However, as mentioned earlier, many of the informants were hesitant to vote, mainly because they believed it would not make a difference. The people, therefore, do not use their political right of voting and the political leaders would not have to change. Some of the informants pointed out that the political leaders had become more open and trustworthy because of the elections:

“[...] The political people are just raising now: if you help us, we are helping you building a new house. Now they are doing these types of things for the vote: if we are winning I will build your house [...]” (Sumira, 40:09).

In order to gain votes, the political leaders have held campaigns and informed the people of their future plans if they were to be elected.

In general most of the informants deemed the local government as open and informative about their plans and budgets (Ganesh, Padma, Daya, Kesari). Focus group1 highlighted that the local government was informative but the plans were not actually achieved.

“They are open to the public, they are just telling, but don’t do anything, but they are open” (Focus group1, 23:50).

The focus group1 implied that the local government gave them promises that they could not accomplish.

Interaction

The general opinion of the local government was; that they were informative, people trusted them mainly because they had no other options, but the local government did not listen to the people and acted on their behalf. Many of the informants implied that the local government was corrupt:

“Nepal gets help from other countries, but the political leaders are bad here [...]” (Sajit, 22:45).

“The people who are involved in politics, they are for example from local government, national government – they are not fairly working [...] they do like corrupted – that is why” (Nabin, 15:07+15:23).

“The political condition is really bad here [...] the community people don’t know that we are getting the budget; only the political leaders know and use the money for their own purpose [...] the political parties take all the money. They are not doing any development things, not helping the people” (Sumira, 27:56).

The quotes imply that the informants' perceived the political leaders in Nepal as corrupt. Such a perception demonstrates that there is an underlying distrust in the political leaders. The local political leaders in Okharpauwa have failed to prove a strong leadership since they have not accomplished the proposition of improved living standards.

The informants were asked how they would achieve the affected people's requests. The main ideas were:

“So if in government I can't do in my own way because there are many people who decide there. So what I want to do, I can't because I also have to listen to all the decisions from all the people” (Nabin, 33:50).

“If we have like more money, first we do the good transportation – good road and then good water resources and one good school and one health care center” (Focus group1, 28:56).

The quotes stress some of the people's desire for improvement in the community, especially the quote from focus group1, where the people would build roads and provide free education. However, as also visible in the quotes, the informants were aware of how problematic it is for one person to change the entire political system. Especially, when an entire group of politicians with different opinions and backgrounds have to agree on a specific request. The quotes demonstrate that some of the informants were aware of the difficult task of performing politics; presenting, approve and implement ideas. It is therefore difficult to change politics, however political leader2 was certain that the local elections would make a change for all the wards in Okharpauwa:

“[...] When the local election has happened, they plan to have a development, health and education in each ward. Those people who win in that

ward they have to develop these things, a health post, hospital, a good education system to manage, so they will focus” (Political leader2, 46:21).

Whereas previously mentioned the informants mainly do not believe the election will make a difference. The political leaders (1+2) both emphasized that they were following the national post-disaster framework. The local election will therefore not have an impact on the recovery framework but it might have an impact on future development projects in Okharpauwa. Hence, a focus on the people’s access to functionings and hereby capabilities might lead to human development. It seems though, that the recovery framework and the development projects are to be implemented separately.

The post-disaster recovery framework (PDRF) is stated differently from what was actually happening in Okharpauwa. The political leaders (1+2) emphasised that the recovery plan was only to help people by providing funds to reconstructing earthquake resilient houses. The PDRF and its five strategic objectives (see figure 4) seem to include more than reconstructing houses.

- The five strategic objectives**
1. Restore and improve disaster resilient housing, government buildings and cultural heritage, in rural areas and cities
 2. Strengthen the capacity of people and communities to reduce their risk and vulnerability, and to enhance social cohesion
 3. Restore and improve access to services, and improve environmental resilience
 4. Develop and restore economic opportunities and livelihoods and re-establish productive sectors
 5. Strengthen capacity and effectiveness of the state to respond to the people’s needs and to effectively recover from future disasters

Figure 4: *The five strategic objectives (PDRF, 2016:6)*

All of the objectives except the first include other propositions of improved living standards. It, therefore, might seem a little confusing that the local government is only focusing on the first objective and to some extent the third. Whilst

conducting the fieldwork, there were not many indications of initiatives to the second objective and certainly not to human development functionings such as the ones examined.

According to the informants, the Gorkha aftershocks have resulted in a greater confidence in the local government, mainly because the affected people do not have other options. Many of the affected people have experienced some financial aid from the government and the local government has been visible in the ongoing recovery. However, when examining the objectives from the national recovery framework, it is clear that the government has a long road ahead. The government expects to finish its recovery framework in 2021 or 2023, five to seven years after the PDRF was presented. So far none of the objectives has been fulfilled and as for Okharpauwa, it seems quite impossible to accomplish all the objectives by 2021 when barely any initiatives have been taken.

Summarizing, the affected people's access to the five instrumental freedoms and the chosen functionings was limited. The Gorkha aftershocks did not have a large impact on the functionings since it seems that the people's access was limited even before the shocks. However, as analysed the aftershocks did influence the community in Okharpauwa in several ways. The research question of this master's thesis was based on the idea of the Gorkha aftershocks being a window of opportunity to human development in Okharpauwa, some parts have already been elaborated above whereas the people's own perception of opportunities after the shocks will be analysed in the following section.

Opportunities

Most of the informants agreed that the aftershocks had not given the affected people any opportunities and there were no positive assimilations to the aftershocks (Bikash, Sunita, Raju, Nabin, Bikram, Dharma, Meera, Prajana, Ganesh, Sumira, Ameesh, Vikram, Aditi). Focus group1 explained that in their

ward none had experienced any opportunities but in other areas, people had been offered opportunities such as jobs, medical support, loans etc.:

“There are no positive things around here but heard in some places, people got opportunities: to go abroad, some people get free education, those who are really affected but not here” (Focus group1, 31:23).

Other informants felt that the Gorkha aftershocks had changed their lives and in some parts for the better. Informant Vanita had received a toilet, informant Ranjita better relations with her family and husband, informant Chandra had moved closer to relatives. Informants Rama, Padam, Sajit, Padma and Daya felt they had received money based on the aid from the government, which they would not have received if the aftershocks had not happened:

“One good thing is that before we couldn’t get any help from the government but now after the earthquake, we are getting help. This is one of the good things” (Padma, 15:06).

“Before I didn’t get any money from the people but after the earthquake, I got money from the people” (Rama, 34:36).

“Before the earthquake, the government was not helping for anything but now they are starting to help us” (Sajit, 33:49).

As analysed above in the trust and openness section the informants had gained more trust in the government because they had become more visible and helpful in relation to the recovery from the Gorkha aftershocks. The informants did not experience any kind of financial aid before the aftershocks, however, the local government was assisting them now. According to political leader² have the aftershocks made a difference:

“After the earthquake, one of the good things from the earthquake to the national political leaders, after the earthquake Nepal got a new constitution so that is one of the major changes and others are same as before” (political leader2, 38:16).

Hence, the national government of Nepal adopted a new constitution after the Gorkha earthquake, which politically has had an impact on the affected people’s recovery. The Gorkha earthquake and its aftershocks have therefore changed the politics in Nepal and some of the households’ lives to the better. Yet, it is important to keep in mind that most of the informants implied that the aftershocks did not have a positive outcome for them.

6. Conclusion

The analysis has given an understanding of the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa. At the time when the fieldwork was conducted the affected people were in the process of reconstructing or building new homes. They had passed the response and short-term recovery phase and were facing the initiatives of long-term recovery. Their daily life had been restored and many of the informants felt that their life was back to normalcy except for the fact that they were living in transitional shelters.

The national government expects the recovery to be finished in 2021, four years from now, which might be possible if the only change would be that the people would be living in earthquake resistant houses. However, the vision of the post-disaster recovery framework indicates more than earthquake resistant houses. There have been challenges and impacting factors that have ceased to slow the recovery process in Okharpauwa. Challenges such as collecting of money, limited manpower, technical failures, lack of resources, lack of communication and corrupt political leaders or impacting factors such as pre-disaster conditions, resources, power relations, etc. The three elements of community recovery (*local leadership, knowledge and ability to act*) should be enforced for the recovery to be improved.

The post-disaster recovery framework involves initiatives to development projects, though they were not visible whilst conducting the fieldwork. However, The Gorkha earthquake and its aftershocks have made a political difference in Nepal. The new constitution was adopted after the earthquake, the first local elections in 20 years were held and the post-disaster recovery framework was initiated. These political differences should make a change in the Nepalese society, a change of access to human capabilities and more freedom. However, such a change has not been visible so far, at least not in Okharpauwa.

The analysis demonstrates that many of the elements in the human development approach were not yet present in Okharpauwa whilst the fieldwork was conducted. The informants agreed that they could choose their own way of living and most of them were satisfied with their lives. However, many of the functionings from the five instrumental freedoms were not accessible in Okharpauwa. Most of the informants did not have access to health facilities, free education, job opportunities and loans. The people in Okharpauwa were therefore deprived of such freedoms. Some of the people might not find free education or proper health facilities important, however, most of the informants indicated that they wished for such freedoms to improve their living standards.

The idea of a natural disaster is a window of opportunity to disaster risk reduction, vulnerability reduction, and improved re-development is embedded in the disaster management approach. This master's thesis has elaborated on the idea of the Gorkha aftershocks being a window of opportunity to human development in Okharpauwa inspired by the research question:

How can the Gorkha aftershocks be seen as a window of opportunity to human development in Okharpauwa, Nepal?

The Gorkha aftershocks cannot clearly be seen as a window of opportunity to human development in Okharpauwa so far and it has therefore been difficult to answer the research question. The reason was, as the analysis indicates because no clear initiatives to human development were observable in Okharpauwa. However, the Gorkha aftershocks have made a difference nationally in Nepal and locally for some of the affected people in Okharpauwa. Some of the informants believed that their lives would be better than before the aftershocks once they had built a new home. Such belief implies that the Gorkha aftershocks could partly result in improved re-development.

Furthermore, certain informants did trust more in the government because the government had supported them for the first time. More trust might result in an improved cooperation between the affected people and the local government for future development projects.

The data and analysis demonstrate that the idea of a natural disaster being a window of opportunity to human development in a community is not applicable to all. If the post-disaster recovery framework was to be implemented exactly as prescribed the Gorkha earthquake and its aftershocks might result in improved re-development, however so far, this has not been the case and it is doubtful that it would transpire within the next three years. A visible objective for improved living standard that has been initiated in Okharpauwa, was the instalment money for building earthquake resistant houses, however one might ask if that is the most important one? And what of the remaining four objectives? Okharpauwa is one case out of many and as aware of cases differ even within the same country. The recovery therefore might be different in other communities, which will be elaborated on in the recommendations section, but as for Okharpauwa there have been limited initiatives to human development post-Gorkha and therefore can it be concluded that the Gorkha aftershocks have not been a window of opportunity to human development in Okharpauwa.

7. Recommendations & Perspectives

Recommendations

This master's thesis has been written with the commitment of giving recommendations to 1) the organisations working with the ongoing recovery in Okharpauwa 2) future recovery frameworks and 3) future research on the combination of disaster recovery and human development.

Recommendations to the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa

The results of this master's thesis demonstrate that the recovery process in Okharpauwa has been slowed down by several impacting factors as well as challenges. Impacting factors such as pre-disaster conditions, resources, power relations or challenges as money collection, limited manpower, technical failures, lack of communication and corrupt political leaders. The actors working with the ongoing recovery in Okharpauwa should be aware of those factors and challenges in order to improve the household recovery.

First and foremost the message to the actors working for recovery in Okharpauwa is; listen to the people's requests and act upon them. In that case, the recovery would be for the people and not what the government believes the people want.

Other recommendations for the actors are to focus on improved education, building roads for transportation, provide toilet facilities, improved water resources, improved and more health centers, more job opportunities and more women's groups in Okharpauwa. The provision of some of those facilities will give the people the ability to act because they would be in a possession of more resources and feel more confident.

Future recovery frameworks

The conclusion of this master's thesis was that the post-disaster recovery framework looked good on paper but the implementation was lacking, at least in Okharpauwa. This has not been a thesis with the purpose of evaluating a recovery,

however, some lessons have been learnt and can be passed on to future recovery frameworks or plans.

The idea of a central policy that is to be implemented decentralised has its advantages, however, it seemed that the recovery was very different in Nepal. In some districts, the people were further in the recovery process than people in Okharpauwa, which demonstrates that there was an imbalance of how much support, had been given to each VDC and how different the VDCs worked. Of course, some districts were more damaged than others; hence the recovery would take longer. However, all of those elements should be taken into account whilst generating the recovery framework. The districts mostly damaged should be given most support, but the less damaged should not be forgotten as in the case of Okharpauwa.

Another lesson learnt was that the three elements in disaster recovery theory (*local leadership, ability to act and knowledge*) are indeed worth emphasising. This master's thesis has demonstrated that there was a lack of all three elements in the ongoing recovery in Okharpauwa, which had slowed the recovery. There are of course many important elements in disaster recovery, however, these three, chosen from Rubin et al. 1985 seem to cover the most substantial parts of recovery. Attention to these three elements and their underlying segments in recovery plans and implementation thereof would secure a more efficient and eased recovery from the beginning.

Future research: Combination of the Disaster Recovery and Human Development fields

The combination of disaster management and human development is relevant, especially with the increased frequency of natural disasters. Long-term recovery and human development can be viewed as similar, in the sense that they share the same vision: to improve the livelihoods of vulnerable people. However, they have different approaches, resources, and circumstances to achieve their aim. It is thus

very difficult to combine the two. Often long-term recovery comes before human development. However, long-term recovery could benefit from including some elements from human development and vice versa. Examples could be to not only focus on reconstructing people's homes and restore normalcy but also include development projects such as rebuilding schools with a proficient staff or provide job opportunities to the affected people.

Such a combination is present in the post-disaster recovery framework for Nepal. However, it seems that the recovery plans are prioritised and the development projects not equally implemented. Development projects often take a longer time to implement, however, an idea could be to implement them simultaneously with recovery projects. Such an idea would require more resources and planning, this master's thesis has demonstrated that an affected community could benefit from such combination.

Perspectives

Some choices were made during this master's thesis' process, which have had a large influence on the outcome. The choice of case and field properly had the largest influence. The informants were from Okharpauwa and had a specific perception of the ongoing recovery process. If the fieldwork was conducted in another community the outcome would be different, because as concluded in the thesis, the districts and their communities had so far recovered very differently in Nepal.

Furthermore, the choice of a community in Nepal had a large influence because the recovery phase was not finished. The outcome would have been entirely different if a case where the recovery period had ended was chosen. It would have been difficult to keep track and not try to evaluate the finished recovery period, which has been done in other studies such as "*Resilient Disaster Recovery: A Critical Assessment of the 2006 Yogyakarta, Indonesia Earthquake using a Vulnerability, Resilience and Sustainable Livelihoods Framework*" by Erin

Joakim. Her study is indeed interesting but the purpose was different than the one of this master's thesis.

This master's thesis could have benefitted from a case study where the recovery period had ended because initiatives to human development would perhaps be more present. However, there was an interest in looking at an ongoing recovery process, in order to see if human development initiatives were present already in the process and not after as solely development projects. Thus, as concluded limited human development initiatives were present in Okharpauwa and will probably not appear until the recovery period is finished. This distinction would have been difficult to analyse in a case where the recovery period had already finished.

It would be interesting to apply the framework of this master's thesis to such a case, to see how different the outcome would be. Hopefully, there would be more human development initiatives to elaborate on in such a case.

The choice of methods also had an influence, since the theoretical framework was determined during the fieldwork and not pre or post. If this master's thesis was produced with an inductive approach the fieldwork would determine the theoretical framework. It would not have been possible to directly ask the informants about their access to the instrumental freedoms since the theory would not have been determined at the time the interviews were conducted.

A deductive approach would have been possible since this master's thesis has been an examination of a specific statement; however, the idea is not theoretically embedded and the outcome would have been entirely different since the purpose of a deductive study would be to verify or falsify a hypothesis/statement.

The theoretical framework was a combination of disaster recovery and human development. A combination that might seem sought but also relevant in the events we are facing today. Natural disasters are increasing and people are continually vulnerable to them. The human development approach could

decrease such vulnerability. Such combination of the two theoretical fields could be interesting to use in future studies. The combination used in this master's thesis (elements from recovery to outline the ongoing process and the five instrumental freedoms and their functionings' accessibility) has been difficult and sometimes confusing to master, but it has been productive since it has demonstrated how the two fields can assist and benefit from each other.

Many lessons have been learnt in the process and from the outcome of this master's thesis and hopefully, its research or foundational ideas can be used in daily work or future studies.

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9. Appendices

Appendix 1: Research Participant Information

Interview no.	Survey no.	Location	Date	Folder	Duration	Language	Reference in Analysis
1	01.01	Ward 1	20.03.2017	B, no. 1	44:29	Nepali	Bikash, 50
2	02.01	Ward 1	20.03.2017	B, no. 2	25:26	English	Sunita, 19
3	03.01	Ward 1	20.03.2017	B, no. 3	35:29	Nepali	Suraj, 62
4	01.02	Ward 2	21.03.2017	C, no. 1	32:30	Nepali	Vanita, 41
5	02.02	Ward 2	21.03.2017	C, no. 2	28:00	Nepali	Ranjita, 23
6	03.02	Ward 2	21.03.2017	C, no. 3	33:22	Nepali	Milan, 33
7	01.03	Ward 3	22.03.2017	D, no. 1	35:29	Nepali/Thaman	Rama, 45
8	02.03	Ward 3	22.03.2017	D, no. 2	32:00	Nepali	Padam, 38
9	03.03	Ward 3	22.03.2017	D, no. 3	35:05	Nepali	Sajit, 30
10	01.04	Ward 1	23.03.2017	E, no. 1	31:00	Nepali	Raju, 45
11	02.04	Ward 1	23.03.2017	E, no. 2	36:35	Nepali	Nabin, 34
12	01.05	Ward 5	30.03.2017	D no. 4	27:10	Nepali	Bikram, 30
13	02.05	Ward 5	30.03.2017	D, no. 5.	23:09	Nepali	Dharma, 49
14	03.05	Ward 5	30.03.2017	D. no. 6.	15:28	Nepali	Meera, 25
15	01.06	Ward 6	05.04.2017	B, no. 7	40:47	Nepali	Prajana, 30
16	01.07	Ward 7	28.03.2017	None	15-20 min	Nepali	Ganesh, 21
17	02.07	Ward 7	28.03.2017	C, no. 4.	16:48	Nepali	Padma, 50
18	03.07	Ward 7	28.03.2017	C, no. 5	21:10	Nepali	Daya, 29
19	01.08	Ward 8	27.03.2017	B no. 4	50:13	Nepali	Sumira, 23
20	02.08	Ward 8	27.03.2017	B, no. 5	26:31	Nepali	Ameesh, 80
21	03.08	Ward 8	27.03.2017	B, no. 6	18:51	Nepali	Vikram, 25
22	01.09	Ward 9	03.04.2017	E, no. 3	25:14	Nepali	Aditi, 60
23	02.09	Ward 9	03.04.2017	E, no. 4.	21:04	Nepali	Kesari, 38
24	03.09	Ward 9	03.04.2017	E, no. 5.	19:10	Nepali	Chandra, 28
25	01.10	Ward 2	28.03.1207	A, no. 1	35:21	Nepali	Focus group1
26	02.10	Ward 3	28.03.2017	A, no. 2	33:49	Nepali	Focus group2
27	01.11	Ward 1	05.04.2017	A, no. 3	01:03:05	Nepali	Political leader1
28	02.11	Ward 1	10.04.17	A, no. 4	54:42	Nepali	Political leader2

Appendix 2: Research Participant Matrix

Ward	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
N=	3	3	3	2	3	1	3	3	3	24
Gender										
Male	2	1	2	2	2		1	2		12
Female	1	2	1		1	1	2	1	3	12
Age										
19-29	1	1			1		2	2	1	8
30-39		1	2	1	1	1			1	7
40-49		1	1	1	1					4
50-59	1									1
60-69	1						1		1	2
70+								1		1
Education										
None	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	3	10
Grade 8			1				1			2
Grade 9		2								2
Grade 10	1							2		3
College										
University	1				1					2
Occupation										
Agriculture	2	1	2		1		2	1		9
Housewife		2			1	1		1	2	7
Driver				1			1			2
Student	1									1
Construction			1		1					2
Other				1				1	1	3
Household members										
0-2		1						1		2
3					1		1			2
4	2			1	2		1			6
5		1	2	1		1		1	2	8
6							1		1	2
7		1	1					1		3
8	1									

Appendix 3: Consent form

Consent form

Investigators: Christel Öhblom

Title of research project: The ongoing Recovery Process after the 2015 Earthquake

- You have been asked to participate in a research project investigating the ongoing recovery process after the 2015 Earthquake.
- If you agree to participate you will be interviewed for approximately one hour. It will be a face-to-face and recorded interview with a volunteer translator.
- The interview will be conducted in March and April 2017. The investigator will provide all forms and materials needed for completion of this study. You are also being asked for your permission to audiotape this interview.
- This study will involve minimal risk and discomfort. The probability of harm and discomfort will not be greater than your daily life encounters. Risks may include emotional discomfort from answering interview questions.
- You will not directly benefit from participating in this study. Indirect benefits will include individual reflection upon the recovery process.
- There are no alternative procedures although the findings of this study may be published, no information that can identify you will be included.
- There is no compensation for your participation in this study.
- Questions concerning this research may be addressed to Christel Öhblom (coblom7@gmail.com).
- Complaints about this research may be presented to Dr Laxmi Prasad Ghimire, General physician and Public health specialist, Program manager at Volunteers Initiative Nepal (VIN), pm@volunteersinitiativenepal.org
- Questions about research subjects' rights or research-related injury may be presented to Nicklas Guldäker, Supervisor, nicklas.guldaker@keg.lu.se
- No service of any kind, to which you are otherwise entitled, will be lost or jeopardized if you choose to "not participate" in the study.
- Your consent is being given voluntarily. You may refuse to participate in the entire study or any part of the study. If you choose to participate in the study, you are free to withdraw at any time without any negative effect on your relations with Lund University.
- At the time that you sign this consent form, you will receive a copy of it for your records, signed and dated by the investigators.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Investigator's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Appendix 4: Interview guide I – household

Household interview guide I

Date: _____ Location: _____ Survey no.: _____
Oral consent obtained (time): _____

Introduction

The purpose of the thesis is to understand the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa after the Gorkha aftershocks.

Sampling

Okharpauwa is located in the Nuwakot District. The district has 61 VDCs (Village Development Committees). I will conduct my fieldwork in the Okharpauwa VDC. Okharpauwa consists of nine wards, where I will conduct 2-3 household interviews in each. A total of: 18-27 interviews.

Introduction questions:

1. Can you tell us a bit about yourself? (Occupation, highest level of education, age)
2. Can you tell us about your household? (Members, head, education, occupations)
3. How long have you lived in the village?

Questions specific to the Gorkha Earthquake:

I want to talk about the earthquake that happened in 2015.

4. Can you describe your experience during the earthquake?
5. What experience during or after the earthquake has impacted you the most? Can you describe it for me?

Recovery related questions:

6. How were your life standards before the earthquake?
7. Can you describe a normal day before the earthquake to me?

Within the last year:

8. Has the earthquake impacted your life? If so, can you explain to me how?
9. What factors have especially affected you?
10. Have you received any kind of help? If not, why not?
- Where did you receive the assistance from? Local government?

Thinking of the community:

11. Have you received any kind of help from the community? Have you helped someone in the community?
12. What do you think is better about your community since the earthquake?
13. Do you think aid has been distributed fairly in the community?

Thinking of the last year and the recovery efforts:

14. How would you describe the recovery efforts so far? Successful? Why, why not?
15. What do you think could have been done to make the recovery efforts more successful?
16. What inspired you or gave you strength to recover after the earthquake?

Human Capital questions:

Now I would like to talk a little bit about your opinion of the following things.

Thinking of health:

- a. What aspects of health do you think are the most important?
- b. Have you received any healthcare or information about health?
- c. Do you think that your household is of good health?

Thinking of education:

- d. What is your point of view on education?
- e. What level of education does your children have? Or what level of education would like your children to have?

Thinking of life skills:

- f. What skills do you think are the most important in life? Why?
- g. Do you have these skills?
- h. Would like to learn more skills? If so, which ones?

Disaster related questions:

- i. Do you think humans have any role in disasters?
- j. What are the main types of hazards that could occur in this community?
- k. What do you do to try to minimize the impacts of those disasters?
- l. Do you feel prepared to deal with another disaster event? Why or why not?
- m. Did you know what to do when the 2015 earthquake happened?
- n. Do you think that more disasters will happen in the future?
- o. Would like to get more knowledge about earthquakes/disasters?

Human development questions:

1. In general, do you feel that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake? To the better or worse?
2. Has the earthquake changed your point of view on life? Do you find it more valuable?
3. Are there some things that are more valuable to you now than before the earthquake? Can you explain which things? And why exactly these things?
4. Did you feel happier before the earthquake?
5. Can you tell me what has been the most difficult for you to deal with the last year? Can you give me a reason for why you think it is this/these particular thing(s)?

Recovery as an opportunity to human development :

My final question is: if you think that the recovery after the 2015 earthquake has given you any opportunities that you did not have before?

Final question:

Is there something you would like to add or something we have not talked about?

- Thank you for participating I sincerely appreciate it and wish you a good day.

Appendix 5: Interview guide II – household

Household Interview Guide II

Date: _____ **Location:** _____ **Survey no.:** _____
Oral consent obtained (time): _____

Introduction

The purpose of the thesis is to understand the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa after the Gorkha aftershocks and examine the affected people's access to the five instrumental freedoms.

Sampling

Okharpauwa is situated in the Nuwakot District. The district has 61 VDCs (Village Development Committees). I will conduct my fieldwork in the Okharpauwa VDC. Okharpauwa consists of 9 wards, where I will conduct 2-3 household interviews in each ward. A total of: 18-27 interviews.

Introduction questions:

1. Can you tell us a bit about yourself? (Occupation, highest level of education, age)
2. Can you describe your experience during the earthquake?
3. How were your life standards before the earthquake? – how are they now?
4. What challenges have you experienced the last year? What has been the most difficult for you?
5. Have you received any kind of help after the earthquake?

Community:

- Have you helped others in the community? Have they helped you?
- Do you think that the help has been distributed fairly?

Recovery efforts:

- Are you satisfied with the help you have received so far?
- If you were the government, how would you help the affected people?

Instrumental freedoms:

After the earthquake do you feel that you have access to:

- Political freedom such as being able to express your opinions/freedom of speech, voting?
- Economic facilities such as loans and job opportunities?
- Social opportunities such as free education and health care, medicine etc.?
- Do you feel that you can trust the government? Are they open about their plans?

Human development questions:

- Do you feel that you have the freedom to choose your own way of living?
- In general, do you feel that your life has changed a lot?
- Are there some things that you value more now than before the earthquake?

Recovery as an opportunity to human development

My final question is: if you think that the recovery after the 2015 earthquake has given you any opportunities that you did not have before?

Final question:

Is there anything you would like to add or something we have not talked about?

Thank you for participating I sincerely appreciate it and wish you a good day

Appendix 6: Interview guide 3 – focus group

Focus Group Interview Guide

Introduction

The focus groups will contribute to the understanding of the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa. The focus groups will give an overview of the community's point of view on the social and human ongoing recovery process.

Sampling

I will conduct 2-3 focus groups in 2-3 different wards. The wards will be selected from availability, relevance and informant access. 6-12 locals will participate in each focus group discussion.

Questions:

For these questions, please try to think about you and your community's experiences with the 2015 earthquake event.

1. Can you describe the community before the earthquake for me?
2. Was the community aware of earthquakes? Aware of the risk? Did the people in the community know how to react if an earthquake were to happen?
3. How has the earthquake affected the community?
4. What recovery efforts have been done so far?
5. What aspects of the recovery effort so far do you think are well done?
6. What aspects of the recovery effort can be improved?
7. Do you think certain villagers have difficulty recovering than others? If yes, what do you think is the reason for these differences? What could be done to reduce some of those difficulties?
8. Do you think that all members of the community are satisfied with the recovery efforts so far? Why not/yes?
9. Has there been any conflicts in the community during the recovery? If so, what caused these conflicts?
10. Has there been any opportunities for you or the community after the earthquake that you did not have before? Have you been able to expand your freedom more than before?
11. During the recovery has there been a focus on:
 - Education?
 - Health?
 - Life skills?
 - Household economy?
 - Future disasters?
12. How would you describe successful disaster recovery?

General questions:

13. What do you think are the biggest concerns (not just disaster related) in the community? What do you think can be done to try to remedy these concerns?

14. What do you think can be done to make the community more satisfied/free/happy?
15. What do you think are some of the underlying causes of poverty and low standards of living in this area?
16. If you had access to unlimited funds, what types of programs or initiatives would you like to see developed in this community?

Final question:

17. Is there something we have not discussed that you would like to discuss? Or anything you would like to add?
- Thank you all for participating today, I am very grateful for your time and I wish you a nice day.

Appendix 7: Interview guide 4 – political leader

Political Leader Interview Guide

Introduction

The interviews with political leaders will contribute to the understanding of the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa. The political leaders will give an overview of the recovery process so far and how the local government has proceeded to accomplish the visions from the national government.

Sampling

I will conduct two interviews with a political leader from the Maoist party and a leader from the Nepali Congress party. The political leaders have been selected by the gatekeeper but represent two different parties and therefore also two different perspectives on the ongoing recovery.

Questions:

First of all I would like to thank you for participating in this interview. Today we are going to talk about the ongoing recovery process in Okharpauwa after the 2015 Earthquake.

1. Can you explain to me how the local VDC has been involved in the affected people's recovery process?
2. As a foreigner I have only been able to find the national post-disaster recovery framework for Nepal, are you following this framework or your own framework?
3. What aspects of the recovery efforts do you think are well done?
4. What aspects of the recovery efforts can be improved?
5. What would you had done different?
6. What is successful disaster recovery to you? / how would you describe successful recovery?

I have done household interviews in the different wards in Okharpauwa and some of the answers made me wonder about the following things, that I hope you can answer for me:

7. Can you explain to me how the VDC distributed the assistance to the different people? What were the impacting factors of some people getting 10.000 and 50.000 and some only receiving 15.000?
8. Can you explain to me how you listen to people's recovery requests/need/wishes? And how do you try to fulfill them?
9. Do you feel that the VDC follow the recovery policies?
10. Can you describe a usual decision process is in the VDC? How many stakeholders are usually involved? How long time does it take?

Final question:

Is there something you would like to add or something we have not talked about?

- Thank you for participating I sincerely appreciate it and wish you a good day

Appendix 8: Household interview transcriptions

Bikash, Interview 01.01

- **Date:** 20.03.2017
- **Location:** Ward 1, Okharpauwa
- **Survey no.:** 01.01
- **Reference:** Bikash
- **Oral consent:** yes, 11:38.
- **Folder:** B
- **Duration:** 44:29
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:06 R: okay, first I would like to say thank you that he wants to participate

00:10 I: (Danyabat) thank you

00:12 R: okay, first I would like him to a little bit a about himself.

00:32 I: he name is X,

00:34 R: okay

00:38 I: agriculture, like school level: he just 10, class 10, grade 10

00:49 R: okay

00:53 I: 50 years old

00:55 R: 50 years old, okay. Ehm okay, can you tell us about your household like how many members there are, the head of the family.

01:06 I: So he is head of the family

01:09 R: head of the family

01:10 I: he has four members

01:11 R: okay,

01:20 I: his son is learning in the university

01:24 R: so his son has finished university?

01:26 I: in university.

01:33 I: All are doing agriculture

01:36 R: okay, so they are not in school or?

01:38 I: no, no one.

01:42 R: so only the son?

01:43I: only son.

01:46 R: and the rest is in agriculture, okay. Yes, and how long has he lived in the village?

01:57 I: (laughing) many many year

01:59 R: yes, his whole life?

02:02 I: like his father here, his grandfather here, his whole 50 years here.

02:07 R: okay

02:08 I: so many many years

02:09 R: so his family...

02:09 I: all related to this village.

02:12 R: okay. So it is a family estate?

02:14 I: yes

02:18 R: okay, right. So now I would like to talk a little about the 2015 earthquake. Can you describe your experience during and after the earthquake?

03:14 I: so in during the earthquake it was really really like, ehm feel very dangerous and unsafe.

03:24 R: unsafe yes.

03:23 I: but after the earthquake we feel safe, at least we have some way to stay. We have like temporary shelter to stay.

03:31 R: temporary shelter. Was it around this area here or?

03:34 I: temporary shelter?

03:34 R: mhh (as in yes)

03:38 I: yeah yeah, this one.

03:38 R: okay

03:39 I: around the house.

03:40 R: around the house, okay.

03:45 R: where was he when the earthquake happened? Was he here or?

03:54 I: he was inside the house. He was eating the breakfast, inside the house, yes.

04:00 R: so he, went outside or?

04:11 I: yeah, he ran out and go to the open area. In the field.

04:18 R: okay, good. And was he together with his family or?

04:27 I: yeah they all are together

04:29 R: they were all together, okay. Good. Ehm can you tell us what experiences impacted him the most, in terms of the earthquake? Like what does he remember the best

04:48 I: most impacted, house. House is totally damaged.

04:51 R: okay, so that what like...

04:52 I: what he is thinking...

04:53 R: the house?

04:56 I: the house.

05:01 I: all are totally cracked, so it is not good to stay over there.

05:07 R: okay, so he felt very sad about it?

05:08 I: yeah.

05:08 R: okay, then I would like to ask him how is life was before the earthquake?

05:30 I: it was better than now.

05:32 R: better than now? Okay. So where does he live now? He lives here?

05:42 I: he lives here.

05:46 R: so in this temporary shelter?

05:49 I: yes.

05:50 R: okay, so he lives in a shelter now and before he lived in the house?

05:54 I: house

05:54 R: okay, before in house. So that is why his it was better before or?

06:14 I: like, ehm, it was more, like more normal. Not nervous and lack of money to build new houses.

06:24 R: okay so he is more nervous now?

06:30 I: so he has to build new houses. Before it was the house was here, and everything was inside the house. The crops the grain, everything was there but after the earthquake. It is difficult now, and also have a problem to make new houses now. So it was better to before.

06:52 R: okay, so he had more like a normal day before. Now he has to do more things than before?

06:56 I: exactly.

07:02 R: okay, so did he receive any kind, like now he has to rebuild his house, does he have any kind of assistance or? Did he receive any money? Help yes?

07:32 I: so after the earthquake the government gave him like 25.000 Rs, to build temporary shelter and now he received like 50.000Rs for clearing the house.

07:51 R: to take it down?

07:52 I: to take it down, yeah and for building new houses.

07:55 R: okay, he did that all by himself?

07:57 I: this houses?

07:58 R: take it down, yeah. Cleared it.

08:04 I: by the other people. He paid the people and then they would come here and remove it.

08:08 R: okay. So he received 50.000 Rs to take it down and now he has to build it?

08:17 I: yeah the government will give him more money.

08:21 R: the government will give more money, okay. And was it a long process? Did he have to apply many times for the money?

08:41 I: there is like one earthquake victim cards and then one like citizenship when they give to the village development community and they will give the money. They will come here to see what happened and then later they will give money. But first they already gave him 25.000 and now they will give him more money.

09:02 R: okay, so he contacted the VDC?

09:04 I: yes.

09:05 R: who get the money from the national government?

09:07 I: yes.

09:08 R: okay, it works like that. Okay, good. So can he tells us a little bit about his life the last year, how it has been like? How different it has been than before? So maybe he can tell us: one day before the earthquake, what he did and a day now after the earthquake what he doing during the day? Make sense?

(others interrupt)

10:23 I: so the life standard a little bit different before the earthquake. And in the time after the earthquake it was very difficult to eat also, to make food, like after the earthquake. And later, last year also he feel no good, he has used to live in house but now he are living in shelter, so where do I go, where am I living now? He was thinking just like that.

10:56 R: okay, so he was a little bit worried about his future?

11:02 I: yes and houses, because it is not lasted life. So where I am now, because he used to stay in house but now he worry about the house. It is cold in here (referring to temporary shelter).

11:23 R: and he still worries about what is going to happen? Like if he can build the house?

(others interrupt)

12:10 I: he say like building the house took more than 80.000 but the government gave only 50.000 so I have more than 30.000 to the people to give to them.

12:20 R: okay, he had to pay himself?

12:22 I: himself, yeah, because the government only give like 50.000 for building the houses but the people needed 80.000. so he had to add 30 more, so it is difficult to manage.

12:37 R: and how long time did it take to take down/ clear the house?

12:48 I: one month.

12:50 R: and does he now when they will start build his new house?

12:59 I: as soon as possible.

13:00 R: okay.

(Others interrupt.)

13:13 I: want to make house as soon as possible and promised management of all the materials like eh the raws, cement, concrete, everything.

13:23 R: has to get it himself or the VDC will give to him?

13:26 I: he has to manage that.

13:27 R: he has to manage himself.

13:28 I: the government only give the money, maybe they will give more money in the future. But materials he has to manage himself.

13:38 R: okay, and does he live in here with his family?

13:43 I: yeah everyone live in here. Four.

13:50 R: four people. Okay good, and has he had any help from the rest of the community?

(others interrupt)

14:32 I: he needed help to make toilet here but only that.

14:36 R: only toilet, okay, but that was before the earthquake or?

14:38 I: no after the earthquake.

14:40 R: after the earthquake, so he has a toilet now. Ehm, and did he help anyone around?

14:57 I: no

14:58 R: no time?

14:58 I: yeah, no time, no like what to say...

15:05 R: he doesn't have the resource to help others?

15:07 I: yes, that is what meant.

15:18 r: but does know the community, the people around here?

15:25 i: yes, he know all of them.

15:29 R: okay, and did they meet after the earthquake, talked together about the earthquake or not?

15:41 I: yeah the people all around the community they stay in. they lived here like in 31 days, they stayed there (referring to temporary shelter)

15:55 R: okay, so almost one month. All together and then they started moving back to their houses or places?

16:06 I: yeah after that some people started to build transitional house and they moved there themselves.

16:15 R: are there now any problems in this community that did not exist before the earthquake? Like for example any conflicts, some people not talking together?

16:35 I: no it is the same as before. No conflict, no anything. Everybody is on their own way, their own life.

16:48 R: okay, so they don't really help each other but they feel okay

16:52 I: with each other, yeah.

16:58 R: okay, and have they all received the same kind of assistance? The same kind of help? Same money? Like all the houses in the community.

17:25 I: yeah, same people. Some of the people get the money, some people doesn't get money because they have some problems with their some cards. That's why they didn't get money, some people. Some people got the same money.

17:42 R: okay not more, not less. So this is because they have problems?

17:46 I: no they have cards, some people like after the earthquake, some people are migrated and also migrated so, the farms and everything is now not well managed so that is why some people doesn't get, some people do.

18:03 R: okay, so if they show that they can take care of the crops and manage then well they get money?

18:10 I: yeah but no, the government will come here, the people from the village, to see what the eh damage, so that's why the people got it. But some people have house but this type of people does not get money.

18:31 R: are there something that are better in the community now, do they feel more together or is it the same as before?

18:53 I: no it is the same as before. So it was the same.

19:22 R: okay so they talk the same as before, they don't talk more now?

19:23 I: people will come, they will meet together, but they did not come to help. But everything is good, all the things are good.

19:33 R: so if we think of the last year and the recovery efforts that has been done, for example the money from the government and

so on. Maybe you can ask him how he would describe the efforts so far? Does he think it is good? Like successful efforts? Does he think that he help is good enough or he wants more help?

20:19 I: no, the help is not good enough for us, because they just gave us like 200.000 Rs, that is not enough to repair one house. If somebody give us, if somebody wants to help us, we are okay for that. We can take help from them.

20:39 R: okay then, so he would like to receive help?

20:41 I: and help also, but the money from the government is not enough.

20:45 R: that is the only help he had so far? From the government? And nothing else?

20:54 I: only this.

21:26 I: you are the first who came here and ask things about this.

21:28 R: yes I am?

21:30 (Translator): yeah he told me that. Nobody came here to ask like that.

21:35 R: no, does he like that I ask questions like this?

21:43 I: he is happy.

21:52 R: but he would like to talk about the problems?

21:56 I: yeah you are the first people who I am sharing my problems with.

22:02 R: okay.

Others interrupt

22:43 R: is it because he cannot talk to the government or with the VDC about this? No one, like no organization has asked him? Like the VDC has not asked him about these problems, is that why?

22:55 I: the VDC came here, but not other people, other organization. VDC has to come here, but not other.

23:04 R: okay, and when the VDC was here they didn't ask him, like what help he wanted?

23:21 I: after the earthquake happened, like one month later, the VDC people came here to ask him about the problems.

23:32 R: okay, good. So he only received the money from the government and which was not enough. Does he have any ideas of how he could get more help? Like for example, if he could he ask whatever he wanted.

24:05 I: no ideas.

24:11 R: so he thinks that it is okay, that he gets the money from the government and no more?

24:17 I: so he say, that is some people want to give loans, it is okay.

24:24 R: from other people, from around here?

25:13 I: I think of someone from the community want to give help is okay, otherwise not he will go to the banks and the banks can loan him money.

25:29 R: and what has given him the strength to come this far. Like right now he is taking the damaged house down and he is living in a shelter, what has given him the strength to carry on, to continue his life everyday?

26:24 I: the planning to make permanent houses, like earthquake resistant houses and if it is made like that then it was better life than before the earthquake, because before we are just living in transitional houses but now earthquake resistant houses. One of the problems with that, if earthquake happen it

doesn't crack. So building the houses as soon as possible and situated there.

26:48 R: okay so actually to have a new nice house that is resistant to earthquakes?

26:54 I: so he is planning.

26:56 R: and that is what is keeping him going sort of to say?

26:57 I: yeah, want to make life standard the same as before earthquake.

27:03 R: he wants to make it the same or better than before?

27:09 I: try to make better. Better than before the earthquake.

27:13 R: okay, so he would like to have a better house than before?

27:16 I: yes.

27:23 R: okay now we are going to talk about a few things that I will ask his opinion about. I have divided them. So first we will start: when he thinks about health. It is here.

27:38 T: he need to choose?

27:40 R: no, no, it is just what he thinks of what aspects of health is most important.

27:46 T: you will ask the question and then I will ask him

27:47 R: yeah, what aspects of health does he think are the most important? Like is it taking shower everyday or is it more like mental health or is it eating healthy?

28:29 I: eat food, eating food. So it makes sense for the health and also make all areas clean otherwise the bacteria can come out. Like that.

28:46 R: and after the earthquake he received, they made the toilet and has he received any other information about health? Or any like medicine or anything like that?

29:06 I: nothing more, just toilet.

29:10 R: and does he think, like, when you think of health has his health before the earthquake and now changed a lot?

29:37 I: yeah, the health is not good with temporary shelter because autumn season it was very cold, in summer season really hot, so it was difficult to stay. So sometimes diarrhea and people feel common cold, fever and these types of health.

29:59 R: so he hopes that when he gets the new house that it will change?

30:13 I: yeah hopefully.

30:27 R: okay. When thinking of education what is his point of view on education? Does he think it is important or is agriculture more important?

30:53 I: education is also most important and agriculture is important because the people have to do it, so both are important.

31:07 R: okay, which one would he choose if he had to?

31:29 I: agriculture, he would choose agriculture.

31:33 R: why?

31:36 I: because we are the people of agriculture so we have to do it because our life standard is from that, so I happen to choose this.

31:44 R: so it is in order to survive, sort of to say, or he needs to do agriculture to make food?

31:52 I: for life standard, and making, if we don't do agriculture my children and other people doesn't pay the money for education. So it is get the money also.

32:11 R: okay, when thinking of life skills: what skills does he think are the most important in life?

32:17 T: what do you mean?

32:18 R: like, does he think it is very important to be able to do agriculture or a be a social person, just in general what does he think is the most important thing?

33:01 I: agriculture.

33:13 R: okay. If he had the opportunity would he like to learn more skills? Like for example, education, computer skills?

33:52 I: he want to learn like, he wants to learn the skill of how to do business. It is better life.

34:00 R: he wants to do business ye. Okay, so when thinking of disasters did he know that the earthquake would happen in 2015? Did he have any knowledge about earthquakes? Like did the community already know that the earthquake would happen?

34:36 I: no, very surprised. Laughing

34:48 R: but did he know what to do when it happened?

35:06 I: yeah he know how to build earthquake resistant house, it should all be well managed so it is better for disaster.

35:22 R: so if an earthquake were to happen again, does he fell more prepared this time than last time?

35:49 I: now he will manage, like building the house properly, anything should be managed.

35:59 R: okay, so does he think that there will come more earthquakes in the future?

36:16 I: he does, he thinks it will happen.

36:22 R: has he experienced other earthquakes than this one?

36:35 I: like before, a little one before this

36:42 R: yeah okay one more than this, in 2011?

36:44 I: not in 2011, in Nepali year it was in 46 but I don't know. Like more before the, before 37 years.

37:07 R: okay, and was it worse this time than before.

37:12 I: yeah it was really worse. At that time only the shake, nothing happened but now it was like large difference between that and this.

37:24 R: and would he like to get more information about earthquakes? Like what he should do in the future? Like how he can prepare and stuff?

37:46 I: yeah, he want to like, he want to learn about this, the disaster.

37:58 R: okay, I have a few more questions. So, just to recap he feels that since the earthquake his life has changed to the worse right now, but he hopes that it will be better after the house is built?

38:15 I: yes.

38:20 R: okay, so when he thinks about his life in general does he think that the earthquake has changed his point of view on his life? Like does he find his life more valuable now than before?

38:40 I: life is more important for us, because we are...

38:52 R: but after the earthquake, or if you are thinking of before the earthquake, sorry.. Now is he thinking more about his life and what is valuable than before?

39:19 I: yeah, he know that life is important before the earthquake but now he know life is really really important.

39:30 R: okay, good and are there some things that are more valuable to him now than before the earthquake? Like his family, house?

39:57 I: most important is my family and shelter.

40:11 R: okay. And did he loose any family members in the earthquake?

40:20 I: no

40:26 R: was he happier before the earthquake or is it the same now?

40:30 T: happy?

40:32 R: yeah like when he woke in the morning, when going out and during agriculture?

40:45 I: he I happy because he is still here and he did not loose any family.

40:58 R: so he stills feel a little bit happy even though he..

40:59 I: yeah.

41:01 R: okay and can you tell us what has been the most difficult for him to deal with the last year? What has he struggled with the most?

41:40 I: it was like eh difficult to stay in this type of house because the people come, everyday the wind. If there is not like one good shelter it is better to keep our property also. Here not to much For that.

42:05 R: okay, so if he had like a better shelter it would not be so bad?

41:07 I: yeah.

42:13 R: okay, I think my final question is ehm if this earthquake has given him any opportunities that he did not have before the earthquake?

42:43 I: nothing

42:47 R: okay, so actually everything is just worse than before?

42:55 I: yeah, it is worse than before. Very difficult, very difficult to manage life standards.

43:09 R: okay, does he hope that like in the future after his house maybe, like after he has built the new house that it will be better than before the earthquake maybe?

43:25 I: yes it will make it better.

43:30 R: okay so maybe that can be.. like... maybe the earthquake, I don't know, but

maybe in two or three years does he hopes that he life will be better than now or?

43:56 I: no it takes time.

43:57 R: it takes time, okay so he thinks that more than 2-3 years.

44:01 I: yes, and when everything is money, so without money you can't make anything.

44:08 r: and he already used a lot of money?

44:11 I: yeah.

44:13 R: okay, good. I think that is it. Danyabat (thank you).

Sunita, Interview 02.01

- **Date:** 20.03.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 1.
- **Survey no.:** 02.01
- **Reference:** Sunita
- **Oral consent:** yes, 12:25
- **Folder:** B, no. 2
- **Duration:** 25:26
- **Language:** English
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:02 R: okay, first I would like to thank you for participating in this. It is very nice of you. Can you tell me a little bit about yourself?

00:10 I: my name is X and I'm 19 years old and just finished second year.

00:20 R: second year in high school or?

00:22 I: university

00:30 R: okay and can you tell me a little bit about your family?

00:34 I: there are 4 members to my family and they are all farmers.

00:42 R: so you have your mother and your father?

00:44 I: yeah an my brother, one brother.

00:48 R: and he is younger or older than you?

0049 I: younger, he is six.

00:57 R: and he is not in school?

01:01 I: yeah he already finished university.

01:03 R: ah so he is 16 years old?

01:05 I: no my brother is now 29 years old.

01:09 R: ah okay, so he already finished. Good and how long time have you lived here?

01:16 I: nnnh

01:16 R: your whole life?

01:17 I: yes.

01:26 R: okay, good. Okay so we will talk a little bit about the earthquake in 2015. Can you describe your experience during and after the earthquake?

01:38 I: after the earthquake I felt badly, our house was totally destroyed and there was no house to stay in. how to live? How to survive?

01:55 R: were you offered shelter?

01:55 I: yeah and we were all offered to go there.

02:08 R: okay, so your house were destroyed and you live in a shelter?

02:13 I: yeah in a shelter and I have tension about my family because they are old.

02:17 R: so you were worried about your family?

02:19 I: yeah, they are not so well. In the shelter it feels cold.

02:27 R: yeah okay, so for example your grandparents?

02:32 I: yes.

02:34 R: okay, you still live in a shelter?

02:35 I: yeah.

02:37 R: you live in here too? (pointing at the shelter I 01.01 lives in)

02:37 I: yeah

02:38 R: so you live together with the other people (referring to I 01.01)

02:40 I: yes.

02:45 R: live in same shelter. Okay and where were you when the earthquake happened?

02:46 I: inside

02:48 R: you where here? And what did you do?

02:54 I: I can't think anything, I just ran.

02:55 R: you just ran?

02:57 I: yeah.

03:00 R: okay, so were you together with your family?

03:02 I: yeah,

03:05 R: and nothing happened to them?

03:06 I: nothing

03:11 R: okay, that's good. So can you tell me what experience you remember the best after the earthquake?

03:21 I: I just think about my family and they all are good. So there is no affect in my family member, house destroyed, I don't think about that I just think about my family member and they all are good.

03:39 R: so you still think about if you family is okay?

03:44 I: yes.

03:50 R: can you tell me a little bit about your life before the earthquake?

03:53 I: before the earthquake I didn't think so much about my family I just wanted to read in the university. Now I have to think about my family. My grandfather is not well and that is why I have to do something for my family. If I get a good job I am just thinking about that also.0

04:22 R: so you are thinking a lot about getting a good job?

04:24 I: yeah

04:29 R: okay, after you finish with the university?

04:30 I: yes.

04:33 R: is it easy to find jobs here?

04:36 I: It is difficult.

04:38 R: and what do you study in university?

04:41 I: science.

04:54 R: so do you think that before you were more focused on your studies?

04:56 I: yeah, and now I am more concerned about my family.

05:01 R: so your father and your mother are in agriculture or?

05:04 I: yes.

05:06 R: and they sell some of their food or not?

05:10 I: mmh (meaning: yes)

05:20 R: okay so can you describe your life in the last year? Have you been less in university or have you been more with your family?

05:30 I: I am with my family in the daytime. In the morning I am in university and after 10 in the morning I go here to be with my family.

05:37 R: so is it the same as before the earthquake?

05:42 I: no before earthquake I stayed at college. Now I have to think of my family so in the morning I go to college and after that I came here.

05:51 R: okay so you go in the morning and then you come back?

05:53 I: yeah.

05:54 R: okay, so it has changed your life a lot?

05:56 I: yes.

06:00 R: okay, has your family received any kind of help, like to build new house?

06:09 I: no the government said to give, but they did not give.

06:15 R: okay, they did not give you any money or anything?

06:18 I: no

06:21 R: do you know why?

06:24 I: mmh no.

06:27 R: so you asked for some money to build a new house but you cannot build a new house?

06:33 I: that is why I started to think about that and to do something for my family.

06:40 R: okay that is why you want to get a job, so you can get some money?

06:46 I: yes

06:47 R: so now you try to save all the money you can to build a new house?

06:52 I: mmh (meaning yes)

06:53 R: and did you get any help from here around the community?

06:57 I: no.

07:01 R: have you talked about the earthquake in university?

07:05 I: yeah.

07:07 R: like in the class, with your friends from school?

07:11 I: yeah, that time, I think one month, in college there is no, they all are talking about the earthquake.

07:23 R: okay for one month?

07:23 I: yes. They are all thinking, they all thinking about the earthquake, because they

all are afraid of earthquake. They don't know, we always think: again it will come, are my family safe, all are afraid.

07:44 R: so you re very afraid and scared of new earthquakes?

07:46 I: yes.

07:48 R: and it was difficult to go to school, get food?

07:55 I: yes.

08:01 R: after the month, you came back to school, maybe you talked with any of your friends about the earthquake and what to do? Are they in the same situation as you?

08:16 I: some are just like me

08:25 R: and you also talked with people around here, in the community?

8:29 I: yeah with the people. One month we stayed together, like 200 people were in big shelter, 200 people we stay in the same, for one month, we stayed together.

08:49 R: okay and how was that?

08:50 I: it was good, because we see all of our family members together, so we are happy. House is destroyed but family are safe, so we are happy.

09:07 R: and was it difficult to manage? Like sometimes to sleep, get food?

09:15 I: yeah it is difficult and that time they were afraid. Sometime when rain and wind also came, we stayed together. Raining inside and cold.

09:39 R: and did people get sick?

09:41 I: because they cannot get food at time, washing at time and that time we cant get food.

09:52 R: so some people got sick, but now they are better all of them?

09:54 I: yes.

10:00 R: so no conflicts started when you lived together? Everybody was happy to be together?

10:08 I: yeah.

10:14 R: so if you think of, like the recovery, like after a year now – it has been almost 2 years since the earthquake now. So do you think that you not have received any help, so do you think the recovery right now, do you think it is okay or would like to have more help or?

10:43 I: I would like to have more help. I would be better, if the people will come and help my family because my mother can't – she is too cold.

11:08 R: especially at night? And you can hear the win in the shelter?

11:09 I: yeah. As soon as possible I just want to go, if I get help, I can do it.

11:27 R: okay so you would like to get some money from the government to make a new house?

11:32 I: yes.

11:37 R: so money, anything else you would like to have?

11:44 I: yeah need more I just get knowledge also. If again after destroyed, our home was destroyed, so would like to get more knowledge to make house, to safe from earthquake. Not only money, I want knowledge also. But one thing it is already destroyed, if it does it one time, it might be the same again. How to make house safe from earthquake.

12:35 R: so far what has given you the strength to go on? Like it is very difficult to, the earthquake, you worry about your family so what keeps you going? It is your family

that gives you like you want to finish your studies and find a job, is that the reason you want to do it?

13:01 I: now I want to go to work (unclear) now I think I only think about my family, so I just think how to get job and how to save money.

13:23 R: so we talked a little bit about health: so what do you think is the most important about health? Is it to for example take a shower, eat healthy food, to clean or?

13:39 I: all thing are important (unclear). Clean inside. All thing are important.

14:00 R: and you know, you have to information about how to do... like health? Do you have knowledge about it?

14:08 I: yeah.

14:09 R: you get in school or?

14:10 I: yeah

14:16 R: right now, are any in our family sick?

14:23 I: yeah my mother, she has the cold.

14:32 R: has she been like this for a long time?

14:36 I: yeah since living in this type of shelter and there is too cold (unclear) suffering from common cold also.

14:50 R: have you been sick since the earthquake?

14:58 I: no

15:07 R: so when we talk about education, do you think it is important?

15:11 I: yeah

15:24 R: and when you will have children, would you like them to have any education too?

15:29 I: yeah, education is most important. Education is the background. Because without education we cannot do anything, now we should have more education, we don't know how to make things, first I will give education and then the rest.

15:55 R: so you think it is a good thing to get new knowledge?

15:58 I: yes

16:05 R: so when you are thinking if life skills, what do you think is the most important in life? For example is it to be able to do crops or to have education, have knowledge, or building skills ?

16:24 I: first education and to get new knowledge.

16:33 R: what kind of knowledge? So you study science, it is important, so are there other kind of knowledge there are important?

16:42 I: yeah also think know about computer skills

16:51 R: are there any skills you would like to get, that you don't have? Like what knowledge would like to get?

17:03 I: how to make new things.

17:15 R: do you know how to do agriculture too?

17:18 I: yeah.

17:26 I: I also want to help other, I need help and I want to help other also. In school time, there come VIN, I knew them because I see it in school. They give us different new knowledge, how to get help from other and how to help other. we are a lot of people, we can share knowledge. So now I want to join VIN, because form VIN you can get different knowledge. So I also want to join, from ... till now I want because I, VIN is good. Ii I get chance.

18:43 R: and do you know what you want to help with? Like if you join VIN, for example?

18:50 I: yeah I help other people because in Nepal now they all are suffering from this earthquake, I also want to give them home, because they all are suffering, just like me. They all need help.

19:20 R: and we can talk a little bit about earthquakes in general. So did you know that an earthquake was coming?

19:28 I: no, very surprised.

19:35 R: and do you know what causes earthquakes? Like how earthquakes happen? Do you know the signs of it?

19:42 I: no, one thing we talked about after the earthquake: if earthquake again will come so we can ... (unclear) because of volcano but there is no volcano here. Earthquake will come when the earth become heat, then the earthquake will come and if volcano come it will destroy earthquake but I was very surprised

20:19 R: have you experienced an earthquake before?

20:22 I: yea but small.

20:26 R: do you remember when it was?

20:27 I: mmh after 2-4 years, it is small.

20:36 R: nothing happened that time?

20:38 I: nothing happened.

20:42 R: and you think a new earthquake will come? One day in the future?

20:48 I: yeah

20:49 R: are you worried about that?

20:51 I: no.

21:00 R: if an earthquake happens again, do you feel prepared? Do you know what to do?

21:07 I: yeah, we have to run out to safe place.

21:25 R: okay I have a few more questions: so in general do you think your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

21:33 I: yes. I think a lot about family.

21:43 R: so is it to the worse? Your life is not as good as before the earthquake?

21:48 I: yeah.

21:50 R: do you think that it will get better?

21:52 I: maybe

22:01 R: and if you think of life in general, do you think that the earthquake has changed your point of view on life? Is life more important to you now than before?

22:10 I: yeah.

22:14 R: so life is more valuable to you?

22:20 I: life is important, after earthquake give us little and now more important.

22:33 R: so life is more important now, before you didn't think so much about it?

22:34 I: yes.

22:40 R: and are there some things that are more important to you now than before the earthquake?

22:46 I: yeah before the earthquake I just went to uni, I don't give more time to family. Now I have to give more time, I think about them and I have to think about my education too.

23:10 R: do you know why exactly, you think more about your family?

23:14 I: because after earthquake there is no house and my mother get sick and weather is not good.

23:32 R: so they are not so happy?

23:33 I: yeah they are worried, they are sad. I think about of how to make home? So worry a lot about the home.

23:49 R: so did you also feel happier before the earthquake? Like you didn't worry so much or do you worry the same?

23:59 I: before I was more happy because I didn't had to think about my family, but now I have to think.

24:07 R: before an earthquake happen, you didn't think an earthquake would happen? So you were not nervous for earthquakes?

24:15 I: yes

24:19 R: so the last year, can you tell me what has been most difficult for you?

24:25 I: it is that all is about my family.

24:39 R: and my final question, if you think that the earthquake has given you any opportunities that you did not have before?

24:49 I: no

24:52 R: so do you think, that maybe like in 5 years, it will still be worse than before the earthquake?

24:59 I: yeah.

25:00 R: you don't think it will be better at any time? Like before the earthquake?

25:03 I: no, maybe when get job, but it will take time.

25:15 R: okay good, thank you very much. It was very nice of you, thank you, I really appreciate it.

Suraj, Interview 03.01

- **Date:** 20.03.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 1.
- **Survey no.:** 03.01
- **Reference:** Suraj
- **Oral consent:** yes, 13:05
- **Folder:** B
- **Duration:** 35:29 min.
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:06 R: okay good, first I would like to ask if he can tell a little bit about himself?

00:33 I: so his name is X. his occupation is agriculture. He education level is 0, he has never been to the school. He is 62 years old. There are 8 members (in household). The head of the family is his father.

01:18 R: he is still alive?

01:18 I: yes.

01:19 R: how old is he?

01:22 I: 84 years old. The other people, the grandson and the son they are studying now. Granddaughter, they are granddaughter of him. Everybody are involved in education, no eh agriculture.

01:55 R: agriculture?

01:56 I: yeah all the family member, once they are after ten they go the field.

02:02 R: okay can he tell me what are the family members? There liand ke 8, so there is the grandfather...

02:15 I: his father, himself, two sons – his two sons, one daughter in law, one grandson, two grand daughters.

02:50 R: and what grandson and one granddaughter is in school?

02:53 I: no, there are two granddaughters and one grandson, only 3.

03:04 R: and how long has he lived here?

03:13 I: yeah, from the forefather.

03:15 R: so also his whole life?

03:16 I: yeah.

03:22 R okay, so we will talk a little bit about the 2015 earthquake. Ehm, can he describe his experiences during and after the earthquake for us?

03:46 I: during the time of the earthquake, every time that was afraid with the earthquake but when it was done after earthquake the normal life is happened as before.

03:58 R: so he was not, is not afraid?

04:00 I: no not afraid.

04:02 R: okay, and was he here when the earthquake happened? (here: pointing at the construction site)

04:06 I: in the house.

04:07 R: in the house, and he ran out of the house?

04:22 I: he was not in the house, he was in the field. He was with his grandson.

04:28 R: in the field?

04:30 I: yes.

04:32 R: and did anyone, has he lost any family during, in the earthquake?

04:39 I: no one.

04:41 R: okay, good. Yes.

04:56 I: the house is not totally damaged but after when they wanted to make new house they destroyed it themselves and make new house.

05:00 R: ah okay, the house, but they were afraid to go in so they destroyed the house or?

05:04 I: yeah destroyed and started to build new now.

05:06 R: okay, so the house was not...

05:07 I: it was not totally destroyed, it was not the same like that, but it was cracked.

05:19 R: ehm and it was here before the house? (pointing at the construction ground)

05:22 I: yeah same place.

05:26 R: so they are building a new one... okay, yes. Ehm and what experience during or after the earthquake has impacted him the most? Like if, what experience does he remember the most?

Phone ringing

06:40 I: it was like, it was there is more destroyed in all of our society from the earthquake, mine to and then the people are involving to start new houses there was more afraid with disaster, so there was big problem with the money.

07:06 R: yeah okay, so that all the homes, many houses were destroyed and they need to help each other?

07:11 I: yes.

07:12 R: yes, okay.

Interrupted by phone (translator talks on the phone)

08:18 R: how was his life before the earthquake? Like did he, what was a normal day for him before the earthquake?

08:32 I: it was very good before the earthquake and nothing, life was very good. But now it is not good.

08:40 R: okay so he went out to the field and

08:46 I: now everything is gone, so not good. But that time everything is over here, so it was good. Normal life is very good.

08:54 R: okay, what about his fields are they still here, are they okay?

08:56 T: fields?

08:56 R: yeah crops?

09:04 I: yeah they are inside the houses. The crops. But the houses is not totally damaged, later they will take down. (house is already down, so what T means is that house was taken down after the earthquake)

I talks – T does not translate.

09:42 T: yeah okay, more questions.

09:43 R: okay, so what has especially affected his life?

10:01 I: the most affected thing is house. Everything is in the house so when the people destroyed the houses, the crops are in one side, the animal, the man, the people, they are not well managed.

10:19 R: okay but did he destroyed it himself or did some other people destroy the house?

10:25 I: other people.

10:26 R: but it was on purpose? Like he managed with them that they should destroy the house for him?

10:32 I: yeah he managed with them. Yeah he need to pay people.

10:40 R: okay like this. Okay. And has he received any help?

11:04 I: yeah he haven't, he before he get like 25.000 Rs for making the transitional houses but later he didn't get any money.

11:18 R: okay, so only the 25.000?

11:19 I: yeah

(phone ringing)

11:29 R: okay so he had to pay for taking down the house himself or?

11:33 I: yeah he paid himself.

11:36 R: and will he receive more help?

11:45 I: he think, he will not receive any more.

T talking on the phone

12:19 R: and why does he think that he will not receive more help?

12:25 I: because he has a problem with his farms and cards. He had to receive the money but he didn't. I don't why I am not getting money.

I and T talking.

12:54 R: and has he received any help from the community around?

13:04 I: he didn't help other and other didn't help him.

13:08 :R okay did he live together with the other people the first month?

13:20 I: with the other people.

13:25 R: okay and where does he live now?

13:28 I: there is one transitional house (pointing behind us)

13:33 r: okay with his 8 family members?

13:35 I: yeah with all the family.

13:38 R: okay and how is it? To live there?

13:45 I: everything is not well managed. In the winter, there was wind and raining, it was difficult to stay there. When it was not so well managed, not so good managed there.

14:21 R: so has any of them been sick for example cold?

14:30 I: no his father is always sick, but the other people don't feel sick. It happened to some people, but not all.

14:46 R: and so far is he satisfied with help that he has got?

14:58 I: I didn't get any help.

15:01 R: yeah it is not so fast?

15:02 I: yeah.

T and I talking – no translation

15:13 R: but he does not know why he didn't get any help?

15:15 I: he don't know.

15:16 R: he only received the 25.000?

15:19 I: yeah.

15:21 R: okay and what does he think can improve the help?

15:32 he does not believe they will give us. Maybe they will give me, I am not sure. If they give I will go to receive, if they don't give...

15:50 R: he will manage somehow?

15:52 I: he will manage.

15:53 R: okay, he is not so worried about that?

16:02 I: if I worry only, only if worried, they will not give so I don't worry about. If they give it is okay, if they don't give it is okay.

16:21 R: so will he build this house himself?

16:26 I: yeah himself. Nobody help me.

16:33 R: and he got some laws from the government to tell him how to build it or he just?

16:46 I: he don't ask anybody. Because he didn't get money from the government so he does not go there to get the law and the design. Design is all him. He bring on engineer to see the houses but he also asked a lot of money for that, so he said you go I will do it myself.

17:17 R: and if a new earthquake would happen he thinks it is okay? His house will stand?

17:25 I: yeah he thinks so because all the design, he know from the government but he don't ask them but he know everything

17:34 R: he got it from somewhere else? The information

17:36 I: yeah.

17:38 R: and the government will not check it? The VDC will not come?

17:42 I: the VDC don't have any registration over here. That's why they will not come here.

17:58 R: okay good. So, so far his life has changed like from before the earthquake and now he is living with his family in the shelter all time. When will he finish his house?

18:23 I: everything is already managed, the materials are here but only the manpower is not managed. So if the manpower is here, in one month it will be finished.

18:34 R: one month? So soon.

18:39 I: yeah one of the concrete roof is finished but it need to be made properly, like pastering, colouring, everything. It tooks time.

18:48 R: and how has the process been for him?

18:52 T: working?

18:53 R: yeah all of the things, like getting to here has it been hard for him?

19:06 I: yeah, there is no any way to bring here, everything they have to put it down and somehow they have to carry up here by manpower so they also have to pay for that too, so it was very difficult to manage everything. One brick to carry to here costs like 2 Rs, if tooks like 30.000 bricks so more than 60.000 RS he had to pay the people to carry from there to here.

19:42 R: and he did that or did he carry himself?

19:44 I: no he paid the people.

19:48 R: and no one around here helped him?

19:54 I: no one (laughing)

T and I talk – no translation.

20:45 R: okay so I have a few questions.

20:52 I: he said like all the materials are already here so we only need the manpower.

20:56 R: and he will pay someone to come?

20:57 I: yeah he already paid the people. People are coming here. They are also involved in other sites, and in the other sites with many places to build houses, so they don't have time to come here. I will ask them to bring many people here to work.

21:11 R: okay so he is waiting for them to come?

21:13 I: yeah.

21:16 R: does he have more hope now? That life will be better after he has built, like as soon as the house is finished?

21:26 I: yes. He feels more secure, more safety when I build my house.

21:32 R: okay, good. I will just talk a little bit about the small things here. So what is his opinion about health, like what does he think is the most important?

21:47 I: food. Food is the most important thing. If you have hygenic food. Most important is like milk. Milk is most important for us.

22:07 R: from the goat or cow?

22:11 I: buffalo.

22:12 T: most of the Nepali people are using buffalo milk, because it is more sweety. Did you try it?

22:20 R: no not yet. Okay and has he received any help about health, any medicine like that?

22:36 I: no.

22:39 R: and does he think that his family is of good health?

22:48 I: his father is not so well but other people are fine.

T and I talking – no translation

23:08 R: and what his point of view on education? Like does he think it is important to have an education?

23:23 I: I haven't been in school, but I think education is most important for like the coming generation.

23:34 R: okay, but like before would he.. what does he prioritise most: education or agriculture for his children.

23:49 I: education is important. If they are studying they can get some knowledge, ideas

but in agriculture like me and my generation working in the field don't need that. So education is important for them.

24:08 R: so he hopes that his children will have another job or?

24:12 I: so that life standard is good for them.

24:18 R: so what does he think of life skills? So what skills does he think are the most important in life? Like doing for example agriculture or getting new knowledge or?

24:56 I: for me agriculture is good, for me but it depends on everybody. Like if somebody are involved in business, business is good for them. Those people who are involved in wood sector, that is good for them.

25:12 R: are there any skills he would like to learn?

25:19 I: nothing. So he is his father (pointing at coming man)

25:30 R: okay we will talk a little bit more about the earthquakes. So was he also surprised when the earthquake happened?

25:52 I: yeah he know little shake before the earthquake. Many times getting shake, but he don't know that this was the big earthquake so he was surprised.

26:06 R: he was surprised of the magnitude? But he knew that it would happen or?

26:10 I: yeah but many times he felt before.

Phone ringing – I talking on the phone.

26:52 R: okay? so has he experienced other earthquakes?

26:58 I: yes.

26:59 R: were they like this one?

27:03 I: it was not like this type of magnitude, it was small.

27:08 R: and does he remember when?

27:16 I: every year.

27:24 T: yeah me too, I heard also.

27:30 R: and does he feel prepared for new earthquakes? Like future earthquakes?

27:43 I: no, not prepared. There is no houses so. But in the shelter doesn't happen anything, so no plan.

27:55 R: so would he like to get more information of what to do if an earthquake happened?

28:04 I: if there is someone to teach us how to do I would like to.

I and T talking – no translation

28:27 R: okay a few more questions. So in general does he feel that his life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

28:55 I: he has worried about the family, the animals, the crops and most importantly mental, like mental is not working properly.

29:13 R: so he is worried about everyday life?

29:16 I: yes and life standard.

29:20 R: so it has changed to the worse for him?

29:24 I: yeah is has changed to the worse.

29:31 R: has the earthquake also changed his point of view on life? Does he value life more now than before?

29:52 I: he know a bit before, but after earthquake he know more. Life is most important for us.

30:07 R: okay so are there some things expect from life that are more valuable to him now than before the earthquake?

30:32 I: shelter is most important for us. We don't that time, when we make this type of

house we don't have an idea of earthquake, but now we know how to make it so it is most important.

30:54 R: and what has been the most difficult for him the last year to deal with? Like has it been building the house, his family, the fact that he is worried, the government?

31:12 I: difficult is making the houses and lack of money, creates many problems.

31:23 R: so he is not so worried about for example his family and he hasn't really struggled a lot with the government or?

31:30 I: yes.

31:31 R: so that has also been very difficult for him?

31:32 I: yes.

31:36: and does he know why, no he does not why the government will not give him money. Okay good, yes my final questions is, if he thinks that this earthquake has given him any opportunities?

32:11 T: I don't know how to translate opportunity

32:12 R: okay like, so if the earthquake brought him any positive things maybe? Like given him any positive things like that he can build a new house and maybe his life will be better than before?

32:46 I: no, not any kinds of opportunity.

32:52 R: there has not been anything positive about the earthquake so far?

33:01 I: naah it was the same like before, only the mental problems, just like that. Nothing changed.

33:08 R: so like that mental is that he is worried?

33:10 I: yeah that he worries to much on the house, family, animals, everything he is worried about. His father also very old man and he has to work.

33:25 R: so he feels a little bit that he has to take care of it all by himself?

33:29 I: yes.

33:30 R: would he maybe like some help from someone else?

33:36 I: if somebody wants to help.

33:44 R: so when he has built his house, he thinks that he will be, his life will be maybe the same as before the earthquake or will it be better?

34:03 I: yeah, I think it will be better than before the earthquake. It was like well managed house.

34:21 R: so he will feel more safe in the new house?

34:22 I: yes.

34:23 R: and he will not worry so much after it is built?

34:40 I: the problem and the worry they never gone up, if we finish this another problem will come.

34:48 R: okay so he believes that there will always come problems.

34:53 I: when we die only the problem gone.

35:02 R: okay I think that is all, thank you.

T and I talking- no translation.

Vanita, Interview 01.02

- **Date:** 21.03.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 2.
- **Survey no.:** 01.02
- **Reference:** Vanita
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** c
- **Duration:** 32:30
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:03 R: okay, first of all I would like to thank her for participating in this, it means a lot to me.

00:12 R: can she tell a little bit about herself

00:19: I: name X

00:29 I: housewife, 41 years old, 7 member in family, a little son and daughter they went to the school. Some other, rest of them are going to work. The oldest son is a driver. Her husband is skill labour, manpower, he build house, construction man and she is housewife.

01:28 R: okay and the other children that are in work have they been to school before?

01:42 I: before he went to the school but after 8th grade he left the school and started to drive.

01:50 R: and has she been to school?

01:55 I: no, her father died when she was very little so due to economic conditions she couldn't go to school.

02:11 R: okay, so she took care of the house and agriculture?

02:15 I: because she was small and there was nobody (to take care of her)

02:22 R: and how long time has she lived here?

02:42 I: like long, from the very beginning, from her father.

02:48 R: okay so this was her father's house?

02:50 I: no her husband's house.

02:59 R: okay, I want to talk a little bit about the earthquake that happened in 2015. Can she describe, can she tell us what she did during the earthquake?

03:32 I: during the earthquake they are living in plastic tent, when there was earthquake. The house was totally cracked.

03:43 R: okay, but that was after the earthquake happened?

03:48 I: not after the earthquake,

03:49 R: before?

03:50 I: yeah, no – in the earthquake it was cracked. (it = the house)

04:02 R: the day the earthquake happened was she here or what happened?

04:11 I: she was on the field. Only her daughter was in the house.

04:24 R: and she made it out? The daughter?

04:30 I: yeah she went out.

04:32 R: all the family members are okay?

04:33 I: yeah, only her daughter inside others were going to work, some in the field,

04:41 R: okay and did she know what to do when the earthquake happened?

04:47 I: no she don't know.

04:52 R: so what did she do?

05:01 I: she just found a tree and there she stayed.

05:11 R: was she afraid?

05:20 I: she was a bit afraid too and she was looking to the house and the house was falled down so she was nervous also.

05:36 R: can she tell us what experience during or after the earthquake that has impacted her the most?

I talking to someone else

06:17 T: what is the next question?

06:23 R: yeah okay. What experience during or after the earthquake that has impacted you the most? And can describe it for me?

07:02 I: the most impacted, the most affected is like her house and inside the house there were cooking materials and food. Everything was inside so she is not able to take it out. So everything was under swell, so she was impacted from that during the earthquake.

07:28 R: and now, is that the thing that most, the thing that is impacting her life the most at the moment? That the house is damaged?

07:53 I: yeah the house is the most impacting our life.

08:00 R: and how was her life standards before the earthquake?

08:18 I: normal, not so good – not so bad.

08:22 R: what does that mean?

08:25 I: normal, not like very high, not like very low standard.

08:30 R: can you describe, like before the earthquake, a normal day in her life to me?

08:38 T: her normal life?

08:39 R: like a normal day

08:59 I: her normal life before the earthquake was nothing, just cooking food, eating food and sometimes go to the field to work, sometimes go to the other persons field to work for money. Just like that.

09:20 R: and what is her day like to today? Like what is a normal day to her now?

09:39 I: it was like more “tension” and then because of how to make house? No money, lack of money, economic condition is bad so more tension.

10:02 R: before the earthquake were there some things that she worried about?

Phone ringing

10:31 I: yeah the problem of my children, family.

10:44 R: so did she worry for that they were supposed to go to school or?

10:49 I: yeah.

10:52 R: and does she worry about it now? Is she still worried about the children?

11:01 I: yeah.

11:10 R: can she explain to me how the earthquake has impacted her life?

12:04 I: during the earthquake she was very nervous and when they said it was finished she was a bit like rounding, her mental was not working properly at that time but later when she saw her house was collapsed and

some people were not fine, she was very nervous at the time, she was very sad.

12:36 R: so how does she feel about it now?

12:57 I: well, we are poor people so we have to go to work everyday and get some money from other income. Now I am not so sad, sometimes I become sad because there is no good house. They are also starting to build house here.

13:30 R: so her family was also very sad when the earthquake happened?

13:54 I: yeah, her husband is sad because he knows how to do the work, he know how to build the house again, but only the problem is money and also her husband's father is also alive now, so he can't work also a problem for that, because a very old man.

14:29 R: he lives here?

14:32 I: yes together

14:36 R: and has the family received any kind of help?

14:58 I: after the earthquake they built a toilet, The VIN helped to build toilet and also win helped to build transitional house. And also the government also give some money, for like... before they get 25.000 Rs for the shelter and now they get like 50.000 to make new house.

15:57 R: so the VDC came out here to check out the place?

16:09 I: yeah, they came here, they took picture, they asked some questions.

16:17 R: and what about for example some of the mental issues have the received any help about that? Like if they worry a lot and are very nervous, have they talked with their family and friends about it?

16:35 I: no

16:37 R: no, okay so she just walks around with it with herself?

16:39 I: yes.

16:43 R: okay so no one from the community around has helped them?

17:20 I: no

17:22 R: and has she helped anyone?

17:39 R: no.

17:46 R: okay so she has, like her family has not been involved with anyone around, like the neighbors talking about the earthquake?

18:16 I: no

18:17 R: okay and within this community does she think that the aid, like the help that they have received, has been distributed fairly? So everyone has got the same?

18:41 I: yes, she thinks so, everybody got the same. She was just talking about that the government also gave some food for them, like rice, curry, some salt, some sugar, tea for them after the earthquake.

19:17 R: and how long time did they have this food?

19:33 I: like one week.

19:39 R: and then they had to find their own food?

19:42 I: yes

I, T and T talking – no translation

20:20 R: is she satisfied with the help she has received so far?

20:42 I: yeah, I'm happy.

20:44 R: she would not like to receive more help?

20:58 I: if somebody help, I would like to.

21:01 R: okay, and what would she like help with?

21:15 I: give some money to make new houses. Money.

21:28 R: so for example more money from the VDC could be nice?

21:34 I: she will get some more money from the VDC.

21:47 R: and so far what has given her the strength or inspired her to continue on with her life after the earthquake?

21:55 T: what?

21:55 R: what has helped her to continue her life after the earthquake? Do you understand?

22:05 T: I don't understand

22:08 R: so after for example the earthquake, you can be a little bit nervous and afraid and you will have a lot of worries so I am just wondering, what gave her the strength to continue her life, she didn't give up, she is still here, working every day.

23:02 I: we are like poor people, if we some more money, so if somebody give some money and help us and if I build new house here then I am free and no struggle also because there are good member in family.

23:20 R: so the hope of like someone giving her money to build a new house, is what keeps her going?

23:27 I: yes and she can live her life when she make a new house, yes.

23:32 R: does she think that her life will be better after the new house? Better than before the earthquake?

23:42 I: yeah the struggle will be less, more less tension than now and before, because before we had not so good houses, now if we

build new houses – more strength and good life also.

24:13 R: okay, so I would like to hear her opinion about the following things: what does she think about health? Like what is the most important for the health?

24:55 I: she don't know.

24:57 R: so it is not so important to her?

25:07 I: she don't know.

25:10 R: and what about education, what is her opinion about it?

25:47 I: she don't know.

25:50 R: what about education, does she have an opinion about that? Does she think it is important?

26:09 I: yeah, it is important. Education is important, if we are educated we can get good job. We can do something, but we don't know, we learn new things.

I talking to someone else.

27:10 R: what does she think is the most important in her life?

27:24 I: most important is shelter, shelter and family.

27:32 R: why?

27:55 yeah important because when we go to work, come back and stay in the house – security.

28:09 R: and does she feel prepared for a new earthquake?

28:40 I: she think she will be prepared with the house, make it like earthquake resistant. The other house n, maybe because it was just like tin, so it doesn't do anything, I think.

28:59 R: so I have a few more questions and then we are done. So in general does she think

that her life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

29:22 I: nothing has changed, like before. Normal life is running like before.

29:34 R: and has the earthquake changed her point of view on life? Are there something that she values more than before?

29:54 I: family and shelter.

30:04 R: and what has been the most difficult for her? The last year what has been the most difficult for her?

30:31 I: the normal is same, only for living in the house because here it was cold so other things are similar.

30:47 R: so the most difficult thing has been that she does not have a permanent house?

30:50 I: yes.

30:55 R: is there anything that she would have liked to change? Like she said she wanted more money. No I'm sorry, my final question: if she thinks that the earthquake has given her any opportunities that she did not have before the earthquake?

31:48: after the earthquake she did get the toilet, so before earthquake she didn't have toilet here. It was an opportunity that I got toilet here, just that.

32:02 R: is there something she would like to add or something she wants to talk about, that we have not talked about?

32:24 I: nothing

32:27 R: okay, then I would just like to thank her for participating.

Ranjita, Interview 02.02

- **Date:** 21.03.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 2.
- **Survey no.:** 02.02
- **Reference:** Ranjita
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** C
- **Duration:** 28:00
- **Gender:** female
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:02 R: okay, first I would like to thank her for participating.

00:10 I: thank you.

00:13 R: can you tell us a little bit about yourself?

00:27 I: name X, age 23, two member in the family: her and her husband, housewife and

agriculture too, do some small agriculture. She just studied grade 9. Her husband work, private job.

I is making food at the same time.

01:55 R: and how long time has she lived here?

02:02 I: in this place or in this area?

02:05 R: both.

02:09 I: this is a bit of her forfather, like from the very beginning, but they just moved here since from one year.

02:19 R: one year, so she just moved here?

02:20 I: she just moved here

02:21 R: But she has been living in this before?

02:22 I: no just like 2 minutes from here.

02:24 R: okay her whole life?

02:25 I: yes.

02:28 R: okay, so we are going to talk a little bit about the earthquake in 2015. Can you describe your experience during the earthquake?

02:52 I: really danger, very afraid. Nothing more, it just happened.

03:06 R: okay, was she here or?

03:08 I: she was in Kathmandu

03:12 R: okay, and what did she do?

03:22 I: she just ran away.

03:24 R: she was inside a house?

03:27 I: she just ran away (seem hesitant to talk about it)

Cooking

03:40 R: okay and what experience during or after the earthquake has impacted you the most?

03:57 I: in that time she was doing a little beauty shop, in that time all the materials were collapsed. So one of the things like that. Her living house, over here, it was totally collapsed. And the crops: the wheat, the barley, everything was inside the house, so totally collapsed. So no food.

04:48 R: and the shop was it her own shop or she worked there?

04:55 I: her own shop.

Cooking

05:20 R: do you still have the shop?

05:24 I: no.

05:25 R: did you have to sell it or?

05:28 I: just left it. Some of the materials she bring to the house, so she plan to start again. She say she loose all materials, like eyeliner, make-up, cream, everything.

06:11 R: so she just left the shop? She is not selling it?

06:14 I: no some of the materials she bring to the house and just leave it and she plan to start it like that.

06:20 R: okay so she will keep the...

06:21 I: material, furniture and everything.

Cooking

07:11 R: okay? Can she describe her life standards before the earthquake?

07:23 I: she was very happy, very good – fantastic. But now, it is really – always sad. Always sad, just living in this type of house, so not good now.

07:49 R: so how has the earthquake impacted her life?

07:52 T: how?

07:55 R: yes, like ehm or has the earthquake impacted her life a lot, I can also ask.

08:04 T: I think I already asked this question?

08:05 R: yeah we already have that. Ehm so can she describe a normal before the earthquake and a normal day now?

08:37 I: before the earthquake she was housekeeper, she was a beautician, she earned money, so life is good but now just staying the house, working in the field, so it is hard.

08:56 R: and how did she get the shop?

09:12 I: she said, from the very beginning before married she had shop in her own fathers house. When she got married she moved all the materials here and later her husband also give some more materials here. Her father gave to her.

09:42 and after the earthquake has she received any kind of help?

09:58 I: she get some money from the government. Some food from the government. Some toilet, not some, just one toilet, some blankets and a tent, everything. Food, materials.

10:31 R: okay, and how much money did she get?

10:35 I: 35.000

10:45 R: so she only got help from the government not from the people around or family or friends?

10:57 I: nothing, no from other people.

11:03 R: and did she help other people?

11:10 I: no.

T talks to driver.

12:04 R: okay? Yes, does she think that help has been distributed fairly around the area.

12:21 I: the same.

12:22 R: so everybody received the same money?

12:30 I: but she didn't get the 50.000, but other people get, she didn't get. But other like, it was fairly.

12:43 R: does she know why she didn't get the 50.000?

12:48 I: her name is not listed, that's why.

12:55 R: but she has to list her name herself?

12:57 I: yeah, she have to. Now she has listed her name.

13:03 R: okay so she is waiting maybe she will get it?

13:06 I: yeah maybe she will get it

13:13 R: and the help she has received so far, is she satisfied with it?

13:25 I: no

13:28 R: what kind of help would she like to receive?

Laughing

13:46 I: the government only give like few money, and it is not enough for us, for our life. To make new houses the money is not enough, so I think they have give more money.

Cooking

14:24 R: so she had to list her name, to get the last money – did she know that she had to list for it? Did she know that she had to write down her name on the list to get the money?

14:37 T: she already listed.

14:38 R: yeah so does she think that she has got enough information about to get help? Does she know where to go to get the help?

14:57 I: yes, she knows.

15:10 I: and every place she go herself

15:12 R: so she knows where to go?

15:15 I: yes, what to do and where to go, she knows.

15:18 R: and would she like to, like have a bigger voice, to decide more like for example she would like to have more money, so would she like to... does she think it is difficult for her to tell them that she needs more money?

15:53 I: it is not so difficult, I will just tell them. Even if they give or not.

16:01 R: okay so she feels like she can tell them what she needs.

16:04 I: yes.

16:08 R: and she feels that they are open to listen to her, the government?

16:22 I: they listen but they do not give.

16:51 T: next question

16:54 R: okay, so I would like to hear her opinion about the following things. When she thinks of health, what does she think is the most important?

17:26 R: is it like taking a shower, get healthy food, the mind?

17:41 I: hygiene, drinking clean water, hygienic food and cleaning around the houses.

17:52 R: and has she received any information about health?

18:03 I: a bit, not too much, but she knows about these things.

18:10 R: and what does she think about education, is it important?

18:20 I: it is very important.

18:26 R: what level of education would she like her children to have?

18:38 I: until they want

18:40 R: as long as they want?

18:41 I: as long as they want.

18:53 R: so it is no so important for her that they go to college or something like that?

18:59 T: sorry

19:02 R: it is not so important if she has children that they go to college?

19:06 I: she says it is important, if they want to study more – as long as they will.

19:20 R: and what is the most important in her life?

19:32 I: most important is her husband and shelter.

19:50 R: and are there any things she would like to learn?

20:01 I: she wants to do training of sewing, yeah sewing training.

20:10 R: so she would like to make her own clothes?

20:13 I: yeah like doing business

20:18 R: and does she think that earthquakes will happen in the future

20:27 I: not sure, maybe they will come

20:35 R: and does she feel prepared if an earthquake were to happen?

20:49 I: now we are more conscious because before I did not know what was happening but now I know what will happen and what we need to do, so I am conscious for that.

21:04 R: and would she like to get more information or knowledge about disaster or earthquake?

21:18 I: if somebody wants to teach.

21:31 R: good, so we have a few more questions. In general, does she feel that her life has changed a sine the earthquake? Has it changed to the better or the worse?

I thinking for a while.

22:19 I: before the family they didn't talk with her, but now after the earthquake, they got a good relation. That is one of the changings.

22:33 R: what family sorry?

22:34 I: with her family.

22:36 R: oh her own family.

22:38 I: yeah before they had not good relation, but now is good, after the earthquake.

22:44 R: because they helped each other?

22:52 I: before they didn't help, but now. They didn't care before, but now they care.

23:05 R: and are there some things that she finds more valuable now than before the earthquake?

23:45 I: if they have permanent houses, like permanent houses are important, good house is important.

23:52 R: so a good house is more important to her now than before?

23:55 T: yeah she said that.

24:06 R: and what has been the most difficult for her the last year?

24:26 I: difficult is like house, there is no good house to stay so they are just living here for one year. Living is very bad.

24:41 R: and can she tell me a little bit about the house situation now? Like the house situations is that she lives here with another family or just her?

24:50 T: before?

24:51 R: no, now

24:52 T: just she and her husband.

24:55 R: lives here, in the shelter? And do they have any plans of building a new home?

25:05 I: not now.

25:11 R: so they would like to stay here, and she will start her shop again maybe but no plans for new house.

25:20 T: (confirming)

25:21 R: why?

25:23 I: because they just made this one year ago, a bit money they just invest here.

25:31 R: so they like to live here?

25:33 I: 2-3 years they want to stay here.

25:51 R: does she think that the earthquake has given her any opportunities that she did not have before?

26:10 I: nothing

26:11 R: okay, maybe just better relation with her family?

26:18 I: yeah just that.

26:25 R: so if she had to mention like on positive thing about the earthquake, what would that be?

26:34 T: positive?

25:35 R: yeah like positive, eh a good thing about the earthquake, after the earthquake?

25:54 I: yeah after the earthquake she said, that my husband is very good. One of the positive things.

27:08 R: and are there anything that she would like to add or something she would like to talk about?

27:22 I: nothing

27:23 R: just one more question, just she feel more happy now than before the earthquake?

27:41 I: no change.

27:47 R: so she feels just as happy as before the earthquake?

27:50 I: yes.

27:52 R: okay, than I would just like to thank her for participating. Danyabat (thank you)

27:57 I: thank you.

Milan, Interview 03.02

- **Date:** 21.03.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 2.
- **Survey no.:** 03.02
- **Reference:** Milan
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** C
- **Duration:** 33:22
- **Gender:** male
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:02 R: okay first I would like to thank you for participating. It is very nice of you. Can tell us a little bit about yourself?

00:31: name X, 33 years old, agriculture, 5 members in family, studied grade 9, only upto grade nine.

01:14 R: okay and what are the members in the family?

01:18 I: mother, myself, his wife, son and daughter.

01:30 R: and are his children in school?

01:34 I: one is in school and one is here.

01:49 R: and how long time have you lived in the village?

0:15 I: from the very beginning.

02:01 R: okay I want to talk a little bit about the 2015 earthquake. Can you describe your experience during the earthquake?

02:36 I: he never think it will happen but suddenly the earthquake came and he was really really afraid. Afraiding time. Every

people was afraid. There was a good shelter here, but it was destroyed when the earthquake time. Permanent house was here but also destroyed.

03:04 R: so his house was also destroyed?

03:07 I: yes.

03:10 R: and was he here when it happened?

03:25 I: he was just inside the house.

03:30 R: and what did you do?

03:55 I: he took all the family member out, and he took his father and mother also.

04:08 R: so they were all safe.

04:09 I: yes.

04:13 R: can you describe or how was your life standards before the earthquake?

05:03 I: it was good before the earthquake like there was house and all the things here. After the earthquake the house was also destroyed I take some loan from other and go to other country to work. To plan, to build new house but I can't and I also have a loan now.

05:27 R: okay so he took a loan from some other people?

05:29 I: from other people.

05:30 R: around here?

05:37 I: here.

5:44 R: and what country did you go to?

05:49 I: Qatar.

05:53 R: when did you come back?

05:59 I: one month ago.

06:10 R: and did earn enough money to pay back the loan in Qatar?

06:46 I: yeah he paid 50 % of loan already and now 50 % missing.

06:54 R: and what did he work with in Qatar?

07:02 I: labor work

07:07 R: labor? But what kind of labor?

07:09 I: secretary.

07:20 R: okay so can you describe a normal day before the earthquake and a normal day now?

08:14 I: before like it was normal day was good, I have job here, I work here, everything is fine but now not house, I have loan and there are two children to send to the school, send money over there. So I need to go to another country again.

8:40 R: okay, to earn more money?

08:42 I: yeah

08:45 R: what job did you have before?

08:53 I: painter.

09:00 R: but you cannot get a job as painter again?

09:03 I : no, he would like to go abroad.

09:05 R: because he can earn more money there?

09:07 I: yeah.

09:17: R: have you received any kind of help after the earthquake?

09:42 I: yeah they just give 23.000. just that and they received some tent and food.

10:31 R: and no other kind of help? Has he received any help from around the ares?

10:41 I: no.

10:43 R: only lending money someone?

10:46 I: yeah.

10:56 R: have you helped anyone in the community?

11:00 I: no.

11:04 R: are you satisfied with the help you have received so far?

11:17 I: yeah I am satisfied.

11:21 R: so you would not like to do any changes?

11:35 I: no no changes it is fine.

11:40 R: and do you think that the help has been distributed fairly in the community?

11:55 I: it was fairly but they like 50.00 now.

12:05 R: to him?

12:17 I: he was not here at that time. He was in Qatar but they say his name is listed there to get money and now they will go there and get the money.

12:27 R: and would you like to make a new house?

12:42 I: they are not doing permanent house. This (the house we are sitting in) is like pillar house so he is planning to repair this house.

12:56 R: for the money they will receive?

12:58 I: yes.

13:10 R: in what way has the earthquake impacted his life?

13:55 I: the most impacted the house, it was like permanent house but it was destroyed. So he needs more money to build it. It was just like three years old house but after the earthquake it was destroyed.

14:22 R: but this was the house before he as just repaired temporarily?

14:27I: yeah they will repair but now they just like this

14:40 R: so I would like to ask your opinion about the following things: what do you think are the most important aspects of health?

15:06 I: good hygiene, clean areas, we should care about everything.

15:18 R: and do you feel that you can do it when you are living in this temporary house?

15:32 I: depends on people, if we care, we can. Eat good food, like cooking fresh food, need to cook fresh food, it can be good. If we cook and leave it for a while, dust go inside because everywhere it is open. So only making fresh food, it is better.

16:15 R: does there live other people here than his family?

16:37 I: just their family and one of his cousins.

16:46 R: and what is his opinion about education?

17:06 I: it is very important, when you go some places you need education. I think it is really important in our life.

17:18 R: what level of education do you want your children to have?

18:12 I: like as much as they can, like the level they want. If they are able to get good study they can, if they want. If they are good in education, if they want, it is better than being a good engineer or doctor.

18:45 R: and what do you think is the most important in life?

19:12 I: like important things are like health, if you are healthy you can do everything and also be able to work, and some talent.

19:33 R: and are there any skills you would like to learn?

- Can't hear but thinks I says no.

20:08 R: so you are satisfied with the skills you have now?

20:10 I: yeah he can drive, can paint, he is a secretary

20:19 R: so he knows how to use computer? Laptop?

20:30 I: basic.

20:37 R: do you think that more earthquakes will happen in the future?

20:54 I: I think it will come, because last month also there was a shake, so I think it will come.

21:14 R: do you feel prepared if an earthquake would happen again?

21:40 I: now we know from that (the Gorkha earthquake) but we will not know when it comes, but we know now what to do.

21:57 R: do you think that humans have a role in earthquakes? That we are the reason why earthquakes are happening or?

22:11 T: reason?

22:12 R: like eh do you know why earthquakes happen?

22:41 I: I don't know why they come, but I think that are heavy load in the earth that's why the earth is shaking.

23:00 R: okay so would like to get more information about earthquakes?

23:12 I: yeah if somebody wants to teach, I would like to.

23:21 R: okay I just have a few more questions. In general do you think that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

24:02 I: there is no anything change in my life. But in other people I think I changed, in my content not.

24:19 R: so do you think that your life is the same now as before the earthquake?

25:19 I: before the earthquake the normal life was very good because I could go everywhere, there as permanent house and the children were safe here. My wife is safe here, but now I have a tension, if I go somewhere and if earthquake happen, where to go? Is there open area all the places? Will the children be safe? So very different

25:46 R: so are there anything you find more valuable now after the earthquake?

26:04 I: the family and the shelter.

26:18 R: and what has been the most difficult for you the last year?

27:33 the most difficult is like work, that have not a proper work, I think one work is better but is not so good, not enough salary for us, for me. I want to build a new house but I cant because I haven't get a good salary and also the house is not permanent. The children are unsafe and I am just thinking when I was working that all the time is was cold here, the children sometime they feel sick here because of the cold, so it was difficult at that time.

28:10 R: has there been any good things after the earthquake?

28:27 I: nothing. Everything is bad.

29:16 R: so he has plans for how he wants to repair the house?

29:20 I: yeah, the pillars are still there.

29:31 R: so do you think that the earthquake has given you any opportunities that you did not have before?

29:51 I: nothing.

29:56 R: do you know when you will prepare your house?

30:32 I: as soon as possible, when we get money and also I want to go again to another country to work to get more money.

30:42 R: so you will go back to Qatar or another country?

30:51 I: not fixed.

30:59 R: and after you have repaired your house, do you think that your life will be better than before or the same as before?

31:38: it will be better than before, if I make a new house then the other people are safe here and it will be better. I can go somewhere to work.

31:54 R: is there anything you would like to add or anything you would like to talk about that we have not talked about?

32:08 I: nothing.

32:16 R: okay thank you for participating it was very helpful.

Rama, Interview 01.03

- **Date:** 22.03.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 3.
- **Survey no.:** 01.03
- **Reference:** Rama
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** D
- **Duration:** 35:39.
- **Language:** thaman/nepali
- **Gender:** Female
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:04 R: first I would like to thank her for participating in this interview, it means a lot to me. Can you describe your experience under the earthquake? No first sorry, can you tell me a little bit about yourself?

00:32 I: my name is X. there 5 member of family.

01:15 R: what are the members?

01:29 I: husband, son, daughter, grandson and grandson.

01:48 R: and how old are you?

01:53 I: 45

01:56 R: and are any of your children in school.

02:05 I: yeah both, they used to but now no.

02:11 R: they used to be in school but they are not in school now?

02:12 T: yeah.

02:16 R: why are they not in school.

02:23 I: they are married, that is why they are not in school

02:28 R: okay so they have a job now?

02:32 I: yeah they do job. Yeah in agriculture, they do job in agriculture.

02:45 R: do they live around here?

02:46 I: yeah.

02:52 R: and how long have you lived here?

03:12 I: whole life.

03:25 R: okay, can you describe your experience under the earthquake?

04:02 I: in earthquake time she goes to, she was in agriculture?

04:13 R: she was in the field?

04:14 I: yeah and she was crying and afraid. She was looking for her family and she was worried about family if they were ok or not. She was in the field so she did not know if her family was okay or not. So she was worried, hope they are being together and started crying.

05:06 R: okay so at the moment she was very worried about them, she could not see them?

05:10 I: it was during the earthquake time.

05:18 R: and she was relieved after, when she found her family?

05:20 I: yeah.

05:25 R: and what experience under or after the earthquake has impacted you the most?

05:56 I: that she lost animals and house.

06:17 R: so she does not live here?

06:24 I: in earthquake time she lived in a shelter, but now she lives here (pointing at house)

06:38 R: so they have rebuilt the house after the earthquake?

06:44 I: they have not built a new house. They didn't repair, but they stay here.

06:52 R: okay so the after earthquake the house was not damaged?

06:57 I: no not totally damaged.

07:05 R: okay and how were your life standards before the earthquake?

08:00 I: life is running very smoothly before the earthquake, not too much tension, no problems, we go to the field. In the evening come back eat food again. It was running smoothly. After the earthquake also it was the same but now we have a big problem with making the house, because it was damaged in one part. So like that, now we have a problem with the house, other things are the same.

08:42 R: so the only problem is like the upper house?

08:45 I: yeah and we worry of when to build the house, we are not sure that it will be built.

08:54 R: and have you received any kind of help?

09:25 I: yeah some money from the government. In the first time they give 7000

after earthquake, then 10.000, then 15.000 and then 15.000.

10:02 R: and have you received other kind of help from around the community?

10:13 I: no.

10:18 R: and have you helped anyone around?

10:43 I: community people didn't help them and they didn't help the community.

10:56 R: and are you satisfied with the help you have received so far?

11:02 I: yes

11:04 R: so you would not like to have more help?

11:12 I: yeah if some will give help I will accept it.

11:24 R: and what will you use the money for?

11:39 I: giving the money to the hospital because her daughter in law is sick, she was pregnant and she went to the hospital and tin roof for the house.

12:03 R: so have they repaired the roof no?

12:04 I: yeah.

12:07 R: and did she get sick after the earthquake?

12:11 T: no she was pregnant

12:18 R: there were troubles with the pregnancy?

12:21 I: in the hospital we had to pay the money, so they invest some money over there.

12:32 R: and do you think that the help has been distributed fairly around here in the community?

12:57 I: yeah really, it was fair to everyone.

13:11 R: and after the earthquake, the help you have received, and how you feel right now – how would you describe it? As something good, like a positive thing or more negative?

13:56 I: there are no positive things for us, we are still sad after the earthquake but the help is good for us, because we can do something from that. Help is good but earthquake is not good.

14:27 R: but do you think that you would have received the help if the earthquake did not happen?

14:36 I: no no nothing.

14:54 R: first I would like to ask you what has given you the strength to continue your life after the earthquake? Like, right after the earthquake you were very sad and worried about the family and some of the house was damaged, how did you find the strength to continue on and just get to where you are now?

15:58 I: we worried, but also worry is not good. That is not happening only to me, it is happening for all the people, so you have to think of all the people.

16:18 R: so that the earthquake happened for everyone?

16:22 I: everyone, not for only me.

16:24 R: so of course you worry, but you should not worry so much.

16:32 I: not worry so much, we have to fix many thing more

16:41 R: and would like to decide how much help should be given to the people affected by the earthquake? Okay I ask in a different way (T – not understanding). Would like to decide how much and what kind of help the affected should receive after the earthquake?

18:02 I: for the affected people, money is good for them, if they get some money like around 400.000 Rs if they get that money, they will do something: they build their houses, start new houses. I think it is good for them if they get money.

18:26 R: so that would be a good thing? she would like to do that if she could decide? To give more money?

18:35 T: yeah.

18:37 R: and now I would like to ask her opinion about the following things: what does she think of health? Like what aspects of health are important to her?

19:38 I: she don't know what to say. She don't understand my language.

19:47 R: what language does she speak?

19:49 T: he is here to translate. I translate him, he translate to her.

19:56 R: so we are like 4 people...

20:09 R: and what about education? What level of education does her children have?

20:42 I: it was important for the children, but my children didn't study, they studied only grade 10.

20:51 R: only what?

20:52 T: only grade 10.

20:55 R: only 10th grade.

20:56 I: and one child only studied grade 9 and they leave study.

21:04 R: why did they leave the school?

21:11 I: her daughter got married and son also got married. Now son is working in the field, he is doing some small agriculture.

21:28 R: so what is the, why didn't they continue with the school? Like one of them only made it to 9th grade, why did they stop?

22:01 I: he doesn't want to continue because he got married. And the daughter she gone very fast, she also got married and then she stopped.

22:11 R: and she has a child now?

22:13 I: she has a child and son also have child.

22:18 R: what do you think is the most important in life? Like what is the most important to you?

23:06 I: family is important. Family, husband is the most important.

23:25 R: and are there any things you would like to learn? Like get some information about?

24:19 I: she wants to lean more things about the earthquake and she always wants to lean some skill things, which can help her in life in general.

24:39 R: okay, can she give us some of the skills she would like to know?

25:00 I: anything, she don't know what to say.

25:11 R: and when the earthquake happened did you know what to do?

25:40 I: now she know little things, in time she don't know what to do.

25:49 R: do you think that an earthquake will happen again?

25:59 I: yes maybe it will come.

26:06 R: and do you feel prepared if a new earthquake will happen?

26:43 I: she say when earthquake come, I will make a new transitional house and I will run out. I will run and take care of family.

27:10 R: I have a few more questions. In general, do you think that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

28:04 I: before there was no tension, no problems but after the earthquake there are problems. So that is the thing.

28:14 R: the problem is the new house and the only thing she worries about?

28:21 I: yeah, other is the same as before.

28:32 R: so like socially there are no worries or tensions? Only physical?

28:56 I: sometimes she is like mental sometimes I get mental mad, always thinking.

29:16 R: okay, so she is thinking a lot about, it gets to her mind?

29:23 I: she has been worried since the earthquake. When she starts thinking one thing, she always thinking that. After the earthquake more about the things, like one for example is she is thinking about the animal, then she is always thinking about the animal. she is more aware now.

29:58 R: are there some things she finds more valuable now after the earthquake?

30:24 I: family and house. Family is most important, I think so.

30:48 R: and what has been the most difficult for you the last year?

31:06 I: always worried about earthquake. When earthquake come? What to do? What to do? And also family and house.

31:33 R: the thing that she worries a lot, does she know how to deal with this? Like is she going to do anything about that she worries a lot or is she just gonna keep it going?

32:19 I: life continues. If somebody help us and give money to build new houses, if not leave it.

32:44 R: so she thinks that if she builds the new house will her worries about her family go away? If she gets the money she will not worry anymore?

33:46 I: when you make house the family will be safe. They are safe in house and your life standard will go smoothly like before the earthquake because the farmer, agriculture people, don't have a problem for that, life will go smoothly.

34:10 R: so she will worry less?

34:12 I: yes

34:14 R: okay my final question: do you think that the earthquake has given you any opportunities that you did not have before?

34:36 I: money. Before she didn't get any money from the people but after the earthquake she get money from the people.

34:52 R: is there anything she would like to add or like to talk about? Does she have any questions for me?

35:12 I: please help us to make house or toilet! I need toilet too.

35:22 R: she does not have a toilet?

35:23 T: no she has no toilet

35:50 R: she wants this from the government or from VIN or?

35:52 T: from VIN.

35:39 R: okay noted. Thank you very much, for participating.

Padam, Interview 02.03

- **Date:** 22.03.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 3.
- **Survery no.:** 02.03
- **Reference:** Padam
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** D
- **Duration:** 32:00
- **Language:** Nepali
- **Gender:** male
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:03 R: good, first I would like to thank you for participating in this interview, it is very kind of you to help me. Can you tell me a little bit about yourself?

00:19 I: name X. 38 year old, five member in the family. Skill man power, skill labor, work

in construction. This is his son (pointing at a boy next to us) he left school, he doesn't go to school anymore, he doesn't like to go to school, that is why he left it. The two other already got married, so now there only live three people in the house. His wife, his son and him.

01:36 R: and which house do they live in?

01:38 I: over there (pointing to house beside us) now they are living in over there in shelter. They are not living here anymore.

01:49 R: why?

01:50 I: because it was destroyed, so they leaved it.

01:53 R: it was destroyed in the top or? (asking because house does not look destroyed/damaged)

02:01 I: it was cracked that is why they leave it.

02:03 R: okay do they don't want to live there?

02:20 I: no

02:23 R: okay so they live in a transitional house. And how have you lived here?

02:30 I: from the very beginning.

02:33 R: and have you lived in the transitional house since the earthquake or how long have lived there?

02:46 I: yeah after the earthquake they built it and live there.

02:52 R: what did you do in the mean time? Before you built this transitional house?

02:59 T: what?

03:00 R: like the earthquake, and then it took some time to build the new house where did you live in between?

03:18 I: living on the road in plastic tent. Living in plastic tent over there and stayed there for 7 days and after that they build the transitional house.

03:54 R: okay and can you describe your experience under the earthquake for me?

04:36 I: he was in the field working, his wife, his son they were in the field. They were all in the field. He saw that the trees were waving like that, the trees were shaking. What is happening now? And was thinking about the earthquake and had to go back to the house. There was a house over there it was destroyed but here nothing happened, nothing more. I did not worry about the people, because they were all with me.

05:25 R: but his two other family members were not here?

05:26 I: no they got married and they are not living here.

05:27 R: so he didn't worry so much about them?

05:29 T: yeah (T confirming)

05:38 R: and can you describe under or after the earthquake, what has impacted you the most?

06:08 I: the most impacted is, like the most affected is my house and my kettle, for the animal. the animal are safe here, every animal is safe. My daughter also come here and they took all the animal out, so all are safe. But the thing that impacted me was the house, the house there were 3 levels but now only 2 levels.

06:51 R: and how was your life standard before the earthquake?

07:12 I: t was good before, nothing happened before.

07:18 R: can you describe a normal day for me before the earthquake?

07:26 T: what do you want to know?

07:27 R: like what time did you wake up, what did you do? Did you have 3 meals a day, 2 meals a day, one meal a day? did you feel

safe or were there some things you worried about before the earthquake?

08:06 I: wake up in the morning around 6, have tea and go to the field, work and come back around 8 and have breakfast, again to the field, back and have lunch at 13, dinner at 20.00. all day in the field, like that.

08:28 R: and did you had any worried before the earthquake?

08:41 I: nothing

08:44 R: and what about now?

09:01 I: now the normal day is the same, only the tension with the houses, everybody around the village started to build the houses but I haven't started that, so I am worried about that.

09:18 R: and why haven't you started building the house yet?

09:28 I: I don't have money.

09:39 R: so have you received any kind of help from the government or other people?

09:49 I: it was the same help like other, like the money.

09:53 R: the same money as the other families we have interviewed?

09:55 T: the same money.

10:01 R: so you need more money to build the house?

10:12 I: yeah they need more money.

10:18 R: have used the money for something?

10:46 I: I use money just for the family, like house, just to buy some food, give some money to doctor, like that.

11:15 R: and have you received any help from around the community?

11:32 I: only get one plastic tent from the people.

11:40 R: from this community?

11:42 I: from where I don't know, they with the bus and give us and left.

11:51 I: okay and have you helped anyone?

12:03 I: no.

12:08 R: and do you think that help has been distributed fairly?

12:24 I: it was the same to all the people.

12:28 R: are you satisfied with the help you have received?

12:42 I: not satisfied I need more money to build the house, when I have money I will start to build house.

12:52 R: so you think the government should give you more money?

13:00 I: yes.

13:14 R: so is that the only thing you think that should be changed? The money? Or are there other things that you would like to have after the earthquake?

13:33 I: if they give money I can do myself everything.

13:42 R: so for example receiving food, or some tools for the field are not as important as the money?

13:52 I: money, if I got money I can bring it myself.

13:59 R: and if you could decide, how the government should do after the earthquake, what would you do? Or if you could decide what to do after the earthquake, what would you do for the people?

14:28 I: I will give the decision of making the house, house is important.

14:39 R: what?

14:45 I: if the government will give him the permission to decide I will help the people to make houses.

14:56 R: like giving for example manpower, materials, technical skills?

15:25 I: materials and manpower.

15:39 R: and what has given you the strength to continue on after the earthquake?

16:26 I: I think it was the disaster to the people, not only for me but all the Nepali people. There are many people who have more problem than me, so I'm just thinking that. I need to continue my life, like this.

16:50 R: so you think, given the circumstances that you were quite lucky – that nothing happened to you and your family?

17:22 I: I am happy because nothing happened to me and my family, only the house.

17:56 R: what are you asking him?

18:01 T: I need to buy a chicken

- Left out conversation – not relevant for the research.

18:04 R: can you tell me your opinion about the following things: so when you think of health what is the most important to you?

19:06 I: hygienic food and clean areas is important to us and not do too much hard work.

19:24 R: what about mental health?

19:42 I: thinking less, if you want to be not mental ill – don't worry too much.

19:54 and what is your point of view on education?

20:24 I: it is important – if the people are qualified they can do something. Like me I

am not studying, I need to work hard in the field. Now they struggle but later their life will be good.

20:47 R: so if you had the opportunity would like to study more?

20:57 I: no because I'm too old (laughing)

21:08 R: and what skill do you think is the most important in life? What is the most important in life to you?

21:47 I: house, shelter, family, money.

21:52 R: what did he say first?

21:53 T: he said the clothes is important for us, but he didn't understand what I said. He understtod for the body, what is important for the body so that is why he said clothes.

22:22 R: okay. Are there any skill or anything he would like to learn?

22:39 I: no

22:41 R: no? he is satisfied with his abilities?

22:42 I: yeah.

22:48 R: so if the could change something in his life, would he like to do that or would he just stay the same?

23:06 I: no just stay the same.

23:09 R: okay so he is satisfied with his life now? He is happy about it?

23:13 I: yeah.

23:17 R: and under the earthquake did you know what to do?

23:27 I: no

23:28 R: do you know now?

24:12 I: when earthquake come I will stay where I am. I don't run away.

24:11 R: would he like to get more information about earthquakes?

24:52 T: he don't understand

24:58 R: no problem.

25:10 R: do you think that more earthquakes will come in future?

25:18 I: yes.

25:21 R: do you know when they happen? Can you see the signs for them? Like do you know the signs for earthquakes?

25:44 I: shakes, when everything is shaking.

25:54 R: and my final questions for you: in general do you think that your life has changed a lot?

26:30 I: before I have house but now I don't have house, so I have to make new house. That is the important thing to me, the biggest change.

26:47 R: are there some things that you find more valuable now than before?

27:30 I: alcohol. Alcohol, family and house. I can't live without alcohol,

27:48 R: after the earthquake you didn't get any alcohol?

27:55 I: no

27:58 R: no, so it has been difficult for him? Can you get any alcohol now?

28:22 I: no (cant get alcohol now)

28:35 R: what has been the most difficult for you to deal with the last year?

Interrupted.

29:10 R: what has been the most difficult for you to deal with the last year?

29:31 I: difficult is like living, the house is not working properly, in the shelter it is very cold and also the problem with eating – no area, where to cook?

29:48 R: so it is difficult to make proper food?

29:50 yeah and not like a free space for eating.

30:03 R: do you know when you will start repairing your house?

30:20 I: somebody help I will start to build. If somebody come to, I will help and then I will start building. When I get help from anybody – around, government, VDC, anyone.

30:39 R: has he asked anyone?

30:43 I: no

30:44 R: so he just hope that someone will come and help?

30:50 I: yeah

30:53 R: okay. Do you think the that earthquake has given you any opportunities that didn't have before?

31:07 I: money. Before I didn't get any money but now they give us money.

31:20 R: is there something you would like to add or that we have not talked about?

31:31 I: yeah, make us to make house.

31:51 R: has he asked someone other than us to help him?

31:53 I: no he has not asked anyone.

31:57 R: okay so he is jiuust waiting. Okay, I will thank you for participating.

Sajit, Interview 03.03

- **Date:** 22.03.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 3.
- **Survey no.:** 03.03
- **Reference:** Sajit
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** D
- **Duration:** 35:05
- **Language:** Nepali
- **Gender:** male
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:02 R: I would like to thank you for participating in this, it is very kind of you. Okay, can you tell a little bit about yourself.

00:17 I: my name is X. 30 yeas old, used to stay in “abrook” but after earthquake he stayed here?

01:01 R: and where is that? Where he used to stay before?

01:05 I: Qatar.

01:10 R: so he was living in Qatar before?

01:13 I: mmmh before.

01:14 R: before what?

01:16 I: he was working there.

01:17 R: one year ago, two years ago? When did he live there?

01:23 I: after earthquake he lived here but before earthquake he used to work and stay there.

01:35 R: and does he have any family?

01:53 I: 7 – father, mother, wife, husband (himself), two sons and one daughter.

02:18 R: and are any of your children in school?

02:47 I: one of the son, stays in other places – not living here and he study over there and one son is studying and daughter is very small.

02:59 R: but the son is living in Nepal or?

03:04 I: yeah.

03:06 R: and when you lived in Qatar did you have your family there or was your family here?

03:13 I: the family was here.

03:17 R: were you here under the earthquake?

0:33 I: when he was there his mother was sick, she has a kidney problem and his father has cancer and that is why he come back.

03:54 R: so he was in Qatar when the earthquake happened and came back after that?

04:02 I: yeah he was in Qatar when earthquake happened. After one month he came back.

04:29 R: what work did you have in Qatar?

04:55 I: (scaffolding) T – mechanic like working in construction sites.

05:02 R: and what are you working with here in Nepal?

05:11 I: agriculture, there is no opportunity for work here so just stay in the house and work in the field.

05:25 R: so would you like to back to Qatar?

05:33 I: yeah he plan to go there but the problem is that there are no money.

05:55 R: so what did you do when you heard about the earthquake? Did you hear about it when you were in Qatar? Did you call your family or?

06:33 I: he heard about the earthquake in Qatar, he tried to call here but no phone signal so he was very afraid about that and after 15 days the phone worked and they all the family are safe here.

06:56 R: okay so he was very worried for 15 days?

06:59 I: yeah

07:05 R: and has the earthquake impacted you in any way?

07:18 I: one of the things is house, the house was damaged and the kettle. The animal house and the house was damaged, so that is why they choose to stay in transitional house.

08:06 R: and what experience has impacted you the most? Can you describe an experience for me? Like what is the thing that you remember the best, is it when you could not call your family for 15 days or is it now that you are struggling with the house, is that you worry go to the for what is it?

09:40 I: when he heard (about the earthquake) he could not go to work for 5 days, he was very worried, he didn't eat anything, he was

very worried. He has no contact with the family, so I was very sick in the time too. I have some money to earn but when I come back, everything was very bad: the house was damaged, mother and father were very sick and all the money was invested in the hospital for the father and mother. Like 7 million. I had like 10 million but after that all the money was gone. So I plan to came back here and do some work for that money I wanted to start a new business. So it is very bad.

- Talking about mother's kidney disease because T asks.

12:18 R: can you describe a normal day for me now after the earthquake?

12:34 I: wake up in the morning, drink some tea, go to the field, work on the house and sometimes I do other work, go to other fields and work for them to get money, two times meal.

13:03 R: do you feel that your life is more back to normal now?

13:45 I: maybe the life is coming better than before because I try to go to Qatar again, so maybe.

14:08 R: have you received any kind of help after the earthquake?

14:23 I: received some money, some food.

14:26 R: from the government?

14:29 I: yeah from the government.

14:30 R: and how much money?

14:43 I: 7000, 10.000, 15.000 and 50.000 and they have now 50.000. they saved money for to build new houses, they are gonna start their houses maybe the same month.

16:08: R: so you didn't have to use this money for the hospital?

16:14 I: no they saved it. All the money he earned in Qatar they used for the hospital.

16:18 R: and do you know when you will start build the house?

16:38 I: not fixed. I am not sure when, maybe after I have been to Qatar.

16:52 R: and how long time do you expect to be in Qatar?

17:03 I: 2 years.

17:06 R: is it the same as last time? Or how long time where you there last time?

17:10 I: yeah two years.

17:14 R: and have you received any help from around the families here?

17:20 T: money from the local people?

17:23 R: yeah or like talking with them to like get out with some of the pressure from your mind?

17:37 I: yes, they talk with each other, living together during earthquake, they all are living in the same tent. In earthquake time 1-2 day they all are living together. After that they stated to be build transitional tent and separate. But in the 2 days they were all living together, sharing and talking about earthquake like: very big earthquake, do you know etc.

18:29 R: and have you helped anyone around here? Have you helped anyone around here, for example by talking?

18:47 I: yeah, went to the other for helping making transitional house and they also come here to help.

19:05 R: and have the families around here received the same kind of help from the government as you?

19:14 I: yes.

19:15 R: do you think the help has been distributed fairly?

19:20 I: yes, no like discrimination

19:34 R: and ehm are you satisfied with the help you have received so far?

19:54 I: the things I have received are good and I am satisfied for that but it is better if we get more.

20:03 R: so you would like more money, more food or?

20:23 I: no it will be better if I get some materials the building the houses.

20:32 R: so if you could decide, how would you help people – the affected people after the earthquake?

21:13 I: if I was that like if they want money, if they want like any kinds of help I will try to do.

21:46 R: do you know why people don't – or do you think – what do you think is the reason people don't get the help they want? (R is interrupted by other T, T and others) what do you think is the reason that people don't get what they want from the government?

22:10 T: they don't want from government?

22:13 R: like he said that if he could decide he would give them what they want and I guess that the government wants to do the same but they can't – so what do you think is the reason why they can't do that?

22:45 I: Nepal get many help from other countries, but the political leaders are bad here, so that is why.

23:02 R: what has given you the strength to continue on – like to come back here and work in the fields?

23:21 I: only the strength from my mother and father. If they didn't have like this I maybe go back to Qatar.

23:32 R: so if they were not sick he would have stayed in Qatar?

23:35 I: hmm (meaning yes) only the one thing is that, no other problem

23:45 R: so you think that your family has helped you to get through all this, after the earthquake?

23:53 T: her family?

23:55 R: family, like... No it is okay (T does not understand question and R gives up asking) so I would like to talk a little bit about the following things. So what is opinion about health?

24:17 I: hygiene is a good thing. Vegetables should be eaten properly, clean vegetable – like that.

24:37 R: and do you think that you have access to this? Like hygiene and fresh vegetables?

25:00 I: yeah we can but it is difficult to manage it because in transitional house everything is in the same place, so a bit difficult for that.

25:16 R: and what is your opinion about education?

25:27 I: it is really really important, if we can study then we get good opportunity and good place to work

25:46 R: I did not get – what grade did he finish?

25:54 I: only grade 8.

25:58 R: and what level would you like your children to accomplish?

26:11 I: as much as they can.

26:23 R: and what skills do you think are the most important?

26:26 T: skill?

26:28 R: yes

26:44 I: any kind of skill is good for people, if they have only one skill then they have to be focused on that.

26:53 R: so having like a very specific skill?

26:58 I: yes if some people are involved in one thing they can have like a good experience, good skill on that. It is better for them.

27:13 R: and are there any skills you would like to have that you don't have?

27:56 I: everything.

27:59 R: everything? So like?

28:03 I: what I can

28:06 R: so you are satisfied with the skills you have? You don't want to have more?

28:10 I: no I'd like to learn more things, but any thing that is good for me.

28:22 R: okay and do you think that another earthquake will happen?

28:31 I: yes

28:33 R: and do you feel prepared if it will happen?

28:58 I: there is no house for the earthquake... there is like a prepare plan, I know now what to do but in this type of house nothing happen I think so, it will not fall down, it will not crash so I am not so afraid for that.

29:58 R: and would you like to get more information of what to do? And about earthquakes?

30:15 I: no.

30:24 R: okay I have a few more questions. In general do you feel that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

30:37 I: no, no change

30:41 R: but you would not had come back if the earthquake did not happen, oh yes. You came back because of your parents were sick?

30:50 I: yeah

30:51 R: so it had nothing to do with the earthquake that you came back. So are there some things that you value more now than before the earthquake?

31:20 I: the family is important

31:24 R: so he values the family more now? Did he realise this when he was in Qatar?

31:42 I: yes in Qatar.

31:58 R: the last year, what has been the most difficult for you?

32:26 I: most difficult is living but there are many... from the wind it was not properly

made, the shelter is not properly made for the wind, only the plastic was and the plastic take off and the night time it was difficult to stay.

33:20 R: has the earthquake given you any opportunities you didn't have before?

33:49 I: the change is money. Before the earthquake the government was not helping for anything but now they are starting to help us.

34:05 R: and here we mean the VDC as the government?

35:08 T: VDC yes.

34:17 R: is there anything you would like to add or something we have not talked about?

34:40 I: if organization will help, they can help me to make house.

34:55 R: like what organization? So he would like to get some help to build the house. Okay thank you.

Raju, Interview 01.04

- **Date:** 23.03.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 1.
- **Survey no.:** 01.04 (from ward 4)
- **Reference:** Raju
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** E
- **Duration:** approximately 31 min.
- **Language:** Nepali
- **Gender:** male
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:01: R: okay, first I would like to thank you for participating in this. Can you tell me a little bit about yourself?

00:12 I: name X.

00:35 R: so you live in ward 4, but you work here (ward 1)?

00:38 I: yeah and work here.
00:44 R: and what do you work with?
00:46 I: working cheese make, dairy – milk production
00:54 R: okay and how old are you?
00:59 I: 45 years old.
01:04 R: and have you been to school?
01:08 I: no
01:11 R: so learn to make milk from your father or? How did you learn to make dairy production?
01:24 I: teacher (pointing at man next to us) I'm his assistant
01:41 R: do you have any family?
01:46 I: five: 3 children and one wife.
01:59 R: and are your children in school?
02:02 I:
02:03 R: all of them?
02:04 I: yes.
02:12 R: how long have you lived in ward 4?
02:20 I: ten years
02:23 R: where did you live before?
02:30 I: not inside Kathmandu (out of Kathmandu valley)
02:45 R: and why did you move to ward 4?
02:54 I: to do some business.
02:58 R: dairy business?
03:00 I: no to income some money. To earn money.
03:07 R: so we will to talk a little bit about the 2015 earthquake. Can you describe your experience under the earthquake?

03:24 I: I was very afraid. He was in the field working (ward 4).

Interrupted by other people

03:47 R: okay and what did you do? Were you together with your family?

03:52 I: all the family are with him working in the field, so he don't worry about that.

04:00 R: and what experience under or after the earthquake has impacted you the most?

04:18 I: all the things were destroyed: his house, his animal, his kettle all inside was destroyed.

04:36 R: so where do you live now?

04:44 I: in his brothers house

04:49 R: is it just next to his own house or?

04:56 I: nah, it is far from his house. Not so far, it takes like 15-20 min.

05:07 R: so still in the same ward?

05:09 I: yeah.

05:15 R: can you tell me how your life standards were before the earthquake?

05:49 I: he was doing agriculture and also a little shop and also milk production before. Now he is doing the same, but it was difficult to live in other house. Before the earthquake it was good over there, it was good. I have my own house, living there, working in the field. Now it is difficult to live in the house, very little space for the family. All the things have to put here. So it was good before. He want 1000 dollar (joking)

06:39 R: yes? I can't give him that. I don't have. So that the fact that he lives with this brother, like his brother's family and his family together, are there any conflicts during the day?

07:14 I: yeah sometimes.

07:18 R: okay so they just have small fights when talking?

07:23 I: well not like fighting fighting – but talking, quarrels

07:35 R: is he planning to build a new house?

07:49 I: if somebody help I will try to make house.

07:53 R: in the same place as before?

08:01 I: same place, it is difficult to make in other places it takes more money.

8:14 R: so have you received any kind of help?

08:22 I: nothing

08:23 R: no help? Not from the government?

08:30 I: yeah the same help like other people when we took interview last time.

08:38 R: so 25.000 before...

08:40 I: yeah and then 25.000 now

08:43 R: okay and he hasn't received it yet or?

08:44 I: he has received it and he invest that money to the school to the children.

08:59 R: does his brother want him to move out?

09:08 I: yes (laughing)

09:19 R: so is his brother trying to help him with building a new house?

09:26 I: no.

09:37 R: so you have not received any other help than from the government?

09:46 I: no just that. Only from the government, not from other

09:50 R: and have you helped someone else?

10:30 T: okay next question

10:31 R: what did he say?

10:32 I: he has shop, he has some rice over here and he gave to other people but he didn't give money, so this my help to the people.

10:42 R: but yeah this is help!

10:50 R: do you think that the help has been distributed fairly in your community?

11:08 I: it was not fairly, some people get less than they need. It was not fair. Everybody should get the aid. Like those people who receive, have like job, who is rich people – they get the money but the poor people doesn't get the money so it is not fair for the people.

11:40 R: does he know why it is like that?

11:47 I: it is due to political condition

11:52 R: so what do you think should be done about it? Like should we change the government or?

12:04 I: they should, the politics be lead by one of the good people, who help the people. Not choose the like these types of political leader.

12:14 R: so like an election where they choose...

12:16 I: good one, not like corrupted people.

12:37 R: are you satisfied with the help you have received so far?

12:48 I: not satisfied, that is not enough money to build houses so he needs more money.

12:56 R: anything else than money he would like?

13:13 I: you can talk with your government and help the people who take interview to give them 1000 \$.

(laughing)

13:43 R: and what has given you the strength to continue on with all these struggles?

14:07 I: we have to work for living so every time we crying and feeling sad or that it is not good for our living standard, so we to work and get some money and continue our life.

14:28 R: okay so you don't worry so much?

14:30 I: yeah.

14:34 R: so now we are going to talk little about the following things: what is your opinion of health?

14:47 I: there should be good exercise. Good healthy good, hygiene food, that's it.

15:06 R: and do you think you have access to this after the earthquake, now?

15:18 I: government should do service every day, so the public can know what is happening. So it should be better.

15:35 R: I cannot give him a 1000 dollars but I can talk to the local VDC.

15:44 I: than you.

15:47 R: and do you think you have access to good exercise and healthy food now, after the earthquake?

16:06 I: now there no chances for that, they are living in one room so everything is done in the same room: sitting there, staying there, cooking there, animals are there so it is not possible to make that.

16:24 R: and what is your opinion about education?

16:38 I: the public are very poor in Nepal so the public should have a free education to all the children.

16:50 R: you don't have free education here?

16:52 T: no, in some of the government districts but not for here.

17:00 R: and what level of school would you like your children to have?

17:10 I: as much as possible. Depends on the children also, if they doesn't want...

17:20 R: but would he like his children to work in the same field as him or?

17:35 I: be a good man, with a good education not having this type of work. No money here.

17:51 R: what skill do you think is the most important in life?

18:26 I: skill is like good things, if they have like health and if they have some government to work, they should work more than 8 hours, if they have involved in that field – their skill obviously become their self, it would be better life.

18:58 R: are there any skills you would like to learn?

19:08 I: no, I am not able to do (X miss half of left arm) but if there is opportunity I can send my children to the – I can try to give children this type of skill.

19:24 R: what type of skill sorry?

19:29 I: which is good for them. Any skill which can help them to have a good life.

19:54 R: did you know what to do when the earthquake happened?

20:16 I: yeah, this things like – that time we were in open area so it didn't matter we were safe.

20:26 R: would like to get more information about earthquakes? Why they happen? What to do? Etc.

20:57 I: the things we didn't know, if possible it would be better.

21:01 R: yeah for example the government gives a service of teaching them about earthquakes?

21:06 I: yeah those things they don't know.

21:13 R: no, so you would like to know?

21:15 I: yes.

21:16 R: and do you feel prepared if another earthquake would happen again?

21:39 I: I have a plan of making an earthquake resistant house for the future, because it kind of damaged his house.

21:50 R: does he know when in the future he will make his house?

22:06 I: if somebody help, like you and other people and your country if we talk with them and they give some money and if the Nepal government also give some money I will make recently because now I'm staying in my brother's house and it is not good with him, like conflict and so on.

22:30 R: if you were part of the government, how would you deal with this? Like people struggling after the earthquake?

23:24 I: if I was in government I would give job opportunities, job to the people who are really really victim from the earthquake, so if the government give them job then they can do something. And also money, recently not like two month time, because the earthquake happened in 2071 (Nepali year) and now it has been three years, so they help should be very recently (faster) it would be better if it were like that.

23:54 R: so more job opportunities after the earthquake and give the money faster?

24:01 I: faster yeah.

24:04 R: I have a few more questions: so in general do you feel that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

24:35 I: the houses after the earthquake, which is one of the most important things. And also in the field, the land also cracked it also not good for doing the cultivation, for cultivation when we put water there it doesn't stay in the field, it goes down – so it is a problem. These have been the biggest changes.

25:03 R: is there something that is more valuable to you now after the earthquake?

25:51 I: the structure of the houses it should be better. If we did that we would not be struggling now. And I think the shelter is an important thing and family also.

Interrupted

26:42 R: this is just a question of interest actually. There is an election soon the local government right?

26:59 T: yeah after two months we will have a new government

21:01 I: okay, if he thinks that it will change something with the new government? For like the earthquake "help"?

27:10 T: I might be, but it doesn't change. In the election that happened before it was the same after.

27:33 R: can I ask him (I) the same?

27:44 I: no, no change. It is not good with this election also, the same will happen. Like the people for local government they are not good, that is why it doesn't change anything. I think it will be no good, more bad than now maybe – even worse than now.

28:25 R: he does not have a lot of faith in the government? Like he does not believe much in them?

28:30 I: no.

28:35 R: and my final question: if you think that the earthquake has given you any opportunities that you did not have before? Are there any positive things?

29:07 I: no, no positive things all are very bad. Negative.

29:17 T: he wants to say one thing.

29:18 R: yeah, I was just about to ask him that.

29:25 I: please take one of his children to your country and then give them good job opportunity over there then I can make house. He send some money here and I will make my house. So this my request to you.

29:43 R: how old are his children?

29:47 I: 17 years old

29:51 R: I wish I could do it, but it is very difficult to get visa.

30:05 I: I am not able to work because I have only one hand, it is hard for disable people. If my children have a good opportunity in some

country I think I will have a good life. Better than now.

30:25 R: have you received any additional help when you are disabled? Do you have a program for that?

30:33 I: nothing.

30:34 R: there is no program for disabled people here?

30:41 I: no

30:48 R: okay, I would like to thank him for participating, it is very kind of him. I will try and talk to the government but I can't promise anything.

.... I: be one of the few things, for the disabled people, like new technical ideas: bring from your country and bring some training to the people here. They can do something and they can earn some money on that. This is one of my requests to you.

.... R: okay good – noted.

Nabin, Interview 02.04

- **Date:** 23.03.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 1.
- **Survey no.:** 02.04 (from ward 4)
- **Reference:** Nabin
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** E
- **Duration:** 36:35 min
- **Language:** Nepali
- **Gender:** male
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

- Interrupted by IP (01.04)

00:50 R: okay, first of all i would like to thank you for participating, it is very kind. Can you tell me a little bit about yourself.

01:00 I: my name is X. 34 years old, 4 member in family. No education. His wife, one son and one daughter. The children are in school now. Want to give them a long education, as much as possible.

01:54 R: and what does he work with?

01:57 I: driver of this (pointing at a truck). from the same community (as I 01.04) so they know each other.

02:14 R: and how long time has he been living there?

02:21 I: long time, his whole life?

02:26 R: would he like to move

02:31 I: it is better to live in same place.

02:39 R: can you tell me what experience under the earthquake... no sorry... can you describe your experience under the earthquake?

02:55 I: I was in Kathmandu under the highway – under bridge highway, I was under the bridge. Under the bridge, was on the motorbike – the big load was coming down, so he just raced it to go there and see what was happening and he know it was earthquake.

03:40 R: so he drove really fast past the bridge?

03:42 T: yes.

03:43 R: and nothing happened.

04:45 I: nothing happened,

03:47 R: and what about his family?

Others interrupt

04:22 I: one of his brother's son – cousin he was in the houses, the house was damaged. I was here in Kathmandu and I go to my village in 15 min, I don't know how arrived here, so it was a really really afraid time. Later we take the baby, it was all good, nothing happened.

04:58 R: can you describe your life standards before the earthquake?

05:17 I: it was better before the earthquake, we had a house, I drive - I have work, now also I have work but now it is a little difficult to stay, I have a small transitional house, it is very difficult to stay there, very cold.

05:34 R: and you live in the transitional house just with your family or other live there too?

05:47 I: just himself (his family)

05:49 R: okay, and do you have any plans of building a new house.

05:53 I: yes

05:54 R: do you know when?

06:00 I: not fixed, I have plan to build the house but not fixes. Maybe when government help.

06:08 R: have you received any help from government, friends, community, family?

06:44 I: I just received the money from the government but I have to take it. The government have listed the name and give so we have to take the money. There are more people, very less economical condition than me, so the things which we have received from the people I also give to the people. At that time a bring one full truck of materials of government collection and distributed to the people who are here (in ward 4) with low economic condition, who has really affecting from the earthquake. They received it.

07:22 R: Okay and he received the same kind of money like 20.000 and 50.00?

07:25 I: yes.

07:27 R: but he thinks that some people should have... that some people are worse than him so they should have it?

07:33 I: yeah.

07:36 R: and is he satisfied with the help he has received?

Others interrupt

09:18 I: I have received some money, I am satisfied with that but it is also not enough money for us to make rebuild the house but these people who are really victim they didn't give money. So for the international people they help Nepal and the earthquake victims but really the government is not helping until now. So the people who help from the international like America, they help to see what is happening here. The help which will be distributed in Nepal: if they are getting that. They have to really check it. So if they check it and some new plan it will be better for the victim people.

10:26 R: so he would like for example the international organisations to come here and actually see what is actually going on.

10:32 I: yeah check the government projects, what they are doing with the money we send, they have to see everything.

10:39 R: does he know why the really affected people don't get the money?

11:12 I: actually, I don't know why they didn't publish the name and didn't get money but there is some – due to some political reason. From the beginning when the earthquake happened the engineer from the government side they came here to see what happened, how much was the damage and

they check it but the political leaders they took gave to other but not the really victim people, so I think it is a sad condition. So the government should come here and recheck all the data.

11:49 R: and see who is really affected?

11:50 I: yeah.

11:51 R: and has there been any like international donors, organisations or anyone talked to him other than the local government or in the community?

12:25 I: nothing just the government. Just the VDC, they are the ones who came here and took information and such. But VIN is coming here and do research and help the people to do some transitional houses. Not all the people.

12:46 R: and has he tried to reach out to some people? Does he know someone he can talk to?

12:59 I: there is no contact with other.

13:03 R: he doesn't know how to contact them?

13:05 I: no, he don't know anyone, that is why he didn't contact

13:22 R: good so you don't think that the help has been distributed fairly?

13:25 I: yes.

13:31 R: and has anyone in the community helped you recovering?

13:44 I: nobody helped anyone they just say I have to help myself. But everybody are victim so they are just moving on their own.

14:05 R: so you were not satisfied with the help like that the victims have not received the help they should. So if you were the local government how would you do this? Giving help to the victims?

14:44 I: the government have rules so only the political leader doesn't follow the rules, so if I was in the local government I will follow the rules that the government made.

14:56 R: so the actually policies that they made?

14:59 I: the policies yes, so if we follow the policies it will be fair.

15:03 R: so you think that the problem is actually the political leaders, that they are not following...

15:07 I: yeah the people who are involving in politics, they are for example from local government, country government – they are not fairly working, no.

15:18 R: they are not doing what they write down that they want to do, they are not actually doing it?

15:23 I: yes. They do some, like corrupted – that is why.

15:35 R: all right, so now we will talk a little bit about the following things: what is your opinion about health?

15:50 I: we have to eat healthy food, do good exercise like working. Little things like cleaning around houses, regular things to do.

16:14 R: do you have access to this after the earthquake?

16:26 I: no, because we have no house and in the transitional house it is very difficult to maintain all things like this, maintain the health. The kitchen and bedroom is the same place, all are in one place so it is difficult to do that (the health).

16:45 R: did you get any toilet from VIN?

16:50 I: yes

16:52 R: after the earthquake?

16:55 I: after earthquake

Others interrupt

17:26 R: I was just wondering if he has any fields or crops that he is taking care of? Like he said driver, so does he drive all day? and does his family do agriculture?

17:59 I: I don't, no only driving I also work with my family in the field so later when I go, just take one trip and later I go to the field again for cauliflower.

18:14 R: okay, and what is your opinion about education?

Others interrupt

18:58 I: most of the Nepalese youth are leaving their education because of the economic condition – so the government should have rules of: up this level free education.

19:11 R: like until level 10

19:14 I: level 10, 12 or bachelor it should be free education to the children, so if they have it like this our education percentage will maybe be more higher than now.

19:37 R: so they start working in the fields to get money?

19:41 I: money.

19:42 R: money because they don't have free education that is why the youth are stopping or?

19:54 I: because of money they leave their education and involve in driving or other jobs. There is some kind of rules in government about the school, they have like a little bit free but for that we have to register our name there and it will be hard for the people. For all the university they have like free, if they have like big discount for the public it should help.

20:35 R: so you think it is expensive to have your children in school?

20:40 I: yes, it is really expensive

20:48 R: and what skill is the most important in life, do you think?

21:27 I: any skill that is good for the people but the government should do training for the skills. The skills that the people want can give training for that and train the people and if they train they can get good opportunity for job.

21:43 R: so like technical training: build houses, for health, information about grants...

21:51 I: for example this type of road is very difficult to drive. I don't like to drive because I don't have all the skill so if the government have other kinds of skill provided then they should give training for us, it is better for us.

22:03 R: any specific skill he would like to learn?

22:28 I: the skill for the business.

22:32 R: so if he could choose another job, he would like to have his own business?

22:34 I: yes if he could leave driving I would choose business, if the government give the skill of how to do business and how to earn the money from the business, if they have this kind of training it is better to me, I would like to learn.

22:56 R: okay good. When the earthquake happened did you know what to do? Like we you of that you have to go really fast?

23:42 I: one of the really important things is the structure of the houses of the school. It was good because it happened on a Saturday and all the schools were closed, but 100 % of the school are cracked or damaged. All structure should be better, we have to care for that now. And other things we have to go to

open area, we know generally because we have also experienced from previous years, so we know. But the structure of making new technical things like road, building, schools everything should be better from the government or from the donor. The house should be private, so they people should take care of making earthquake resistant houses, like that.

24:41 R: so do you feel prepared if another earthquake were to happen?

24:56 I: yes I am preparing now, making the house in an open area, making like earthquake resistant house and when it happening generally we know the things: the ground was shaking, the people directly heard about that and they started to run away like me. So these are the normal things.

25:15 R: would eh, like we were talking a little bit about the training and skills, would he like to get more information of what causes earthquakes, what to do...?

26:14 I: it is better now than the last time the government send someone here to each and every house. If they send engineer who can tell what to do when it is coming, when they are there: then they can tell them what to do. It is better to the public to know about these things. So if somebody give the opportunity for this, it would be nice for us and the people in our community.

26:46 R: okay so that someone come and talk with everyone in the community?

26:46 I: mmh everyone there.

27:03 R: so in general so you think that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

28:17 I: before, this is my own truck, but before the earthquake I didn't drive it. I put one of the driver here and he earn some money and he give to me. But now to save

some money I have to put the struggle on myself, I drive the truck myself to save some more money. Then also the struggle, the earthquake teach us that we have to do some struggle: I wake up 3 am in the morning and drive and take all the agriculture things like the vegetables and the truck to Kathmandu to get some money. So the life, the earthquake say: we have to struggle more, that changed to me. So I am doing struggle now a days, I have to myself.

29:24 R: and is there something that you value more now than before the earthquake?

29:48 I: nothing, no change.

30:02 R: if you were to choose one thing, what has been the most difficult since the earthquake?

30:45 I: like most of the people have to face the problem to stay, like shelter. I think it is not only me, I think it is all the people. Because before the life was very good but now very bad for the people, since 3 years. Because the earthquake is happening 3 years ago (nepali year) so now the people also have not so good places to stay, stay in transitional house, tin, when raining the water leaking, when hot is was very hot inside. So yeah the living standard is low.

31:24 R: and do you think that if the government had dealt with this differently, like if they had send out people to every house and given more money to each family, would the earthquake had resulted in anything positive? Like better life standards?

32:06 I: no change, they will not do differently so things we have to do ourselves.

32:19 R: but if he was the government and did....

32:53 T: anymore question?

R a little confused did not finish question before.

32:58 R: if you were the government and you had done the things that we just talked about do you think that it would have resulted in something positive for the affected people?

33:50 I: so if was also in government I can't do in my own way because there are many people who decide there. So what I want to do, I cant because I have to listen to all the decision from all the people also.

34:12 R: so is there anything you would like to add or talk about, that we have not talked about?

35:00 I: he want to say the help from the people, the international people – like you, like give some money like 5 euro, 10 euro, collect and give some money. Many international people are collecting some money and when it comes to Nepal it gets bigger.

35:27 R: so like doing donations? If international people did donation?

35:30 I: yeah donation from other people, the people have to see who the donation is going to. So the government they come and see what the government are doing now, what are their donation used for. Checking. It will be better for us. If some people wants to donate and they don't give directly to the government, if they want to donate they (should) come here and see who is really affecting here and donate to the people so that they can get help, good help. If they give to the government, the government never give to the affected people. So I would like to request this. If they want to help, they come here and help the people.

36:18 R: okay, I just want to say thank you. It is very nice.

Bikram, Interview 01.05

- **Date:** 30.03.17
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 5.
- **Survey no.:** 01.05
- **Reference:** Bikram
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** D, no. 4
- **Duration:** 27:10
- **Language:** Nepali
- **Gender:** male
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:03 R: first of all I would like to thank you for participating, it is very kind of you. Can you tell me a little bit about yourself?

00:14 I: my name is X. I am 30 years old. labor work: construction labor. There are 4 member in the family. He, his wife, son and daughter. The children are in school

01:06 R: okay and have you been to school?

01:09 I: no.

01:15 R: can you tell me about your experience under earthquake to me?

02:17 I: he was working just near and he know earthquake is happening, he was on the roof and he jumped. All the family are save around here, so nothing happened to anyone, it was safe.

02:44 R: and did something happened to your house?

02:48 I: yeah this part was damaged and later he repaired it.

02:55 R: okay so now it is safe to live here?

03:28 I: they are planning to build a new house, because it is not totally safe. Now they

are staying here and have the things here, so they want to build a new house

03:42 R: are there still a few cracks around here? (wondering, why new house)

03:49 I: yeah.

03:57 R: and was the family in the field when the earthquake happened?

04:02 I: no they were just out of the house.

04:04 R: do you have any fields around here or?

04:10 I: no they don't have.

04:12 R: so their main income is from his work in construction?

04:15 I: yeah, they don't have a field.

05:09 I: they are planning to build new houses, they are already get some from the government, they received money and they started to build the ground area. The foundation. But they don't have any types of land, so he just works in construction and get money and that is enough.

05:28 R: so what kind of help have you received from the government?

06:08 I: VIN also helped to build transitional house and then also they received some food

and also the money from the local government. And now with the 50.000 they start build the new house.

06:38 R: where are you gonna build your new house?

06:52 I: they are just working on their budget, like the money from the government and also the help. The government decided to give them 50.000 and then they will start build.

07:07 R: but is it around here they are going to build the house?

07:10 I: yeah around here.

07:13 R: so do you know when it will be finished?

07:25 I: they don't know, not fixed

- Housewife talking

07:47 R: and what challenges have you experienced since the earthquake? Like what has been the most difficult since the earthquake?

08:42 I: the difficult thing is like proper food and living. He does not earn so much money, so the money go to the school to the children, some food...

09:05 R: and how do they do with the food? They buy it in the store?

09:09 I: they buy from the store because they don't have any land.

09:22 R: and have you received any other kind of help from the community? And have you helped anyone?

09:31 I: nothing.

09:32 R: and have you helped anyone

09:38 I: no

09:55 R: do you feel that the help has been distributed fairly in the community?

10:16 I: yeah, it was fairly. Any help they received from the government in the community: it was fairly distributed to everyone. (rest is unclear)

10:37 R: and what the government has done after the earthquake, are you satisfied with that?

11:01 I: not satisfied: they are always saying we are giving to you, giving to you but it is difficult to trust them. After the earthquake they always say, but nothing. The money who are for the houses they given is not enough for us, we need more money.

11:24 R: and now you will start building your house, do you know where you will get the rest of the money from?

11:40 I: I am not thinking those things right now. Food, where to go. they will figure it out.

12:17 I: they are just saying, what to do: no money? Or the money is not enough from the government: the design is like, the design of the house is very high, the quality of the house is very good but to make that type of design, it costs more. The materials are more expansive, so it is difficult.

12:48 R: so if you were the government how would you help the affected people?

14:05 I: if we are in government finalize the people are really victim and like giving food to them, supply food and give like total money. Like helping them, give the money: like how much do they need to build one house.

14:34 R: so like: how much does a house actually costs and then give that amount of money?

14:38 I: that and the people who are very very victim. Not distribute to everyone but finalise

the affected people, who are victim first and then help them – most affected people.

- Housewife talking, IP went out to pray

16:17 R: so after the earthquake do you feel....

- Housewife talking again

16:45 R: after the earthquake do you feel that you have access to political freedom?

17:08 I: there is no access.

17:11 R: so you don't feel that you can express your opinions?

17:52 I: the people around here, the leader – the local leader, they don't give them the chance to speak with the government. They will always help them and then let be down, they will always and they say: ah you stay and I will go there and say these things.

18:10 R: so here they can never speak to the national government for example?

18:13 I: yeah

18:16 R: so like they local government they can speak to, but they don't really go further with what they are saying to them?

18:21 I: yes.

-housewife talking again

18:48 R: economic facilities such as money, loan, job opportunities?

19:00 I: no (no access/opportunities)

19:02 R: you have not been offered more work after the earthquake?

19:06 I: no loan access, people didn't believe them. They tell that they will not give them back again. If somebody give the loan, for example if I give loan to him, he will never pay me back, because he does not have any sources to income money.

19:22 R: no security?

19:26 I: yes, they are thinking that.

19:29 R: and since you are in construction: do you have more work now than before?

19:42 I: no change, it is the same

19:48 R: does he work for someone or is he like his own...

19:59 I: work for someone. When the invite him to go for work, to come work, he go there and work.

20:08 R: what about some social opportunities such as healthcare, free education, social service – do you have that here in the community after the earthquake?

20:48 I: yeah, there is like a health clinic in town, a local clinic. They have like ehm, they provide the medicine but I think the quality I not good. There is no free education here. After the earthquake they gave some medicine and also they have healthcare. If they need some medicine they can go there and get it.

21:20 R: but not like severe damage, like if you have to go to the hospital, they can't help you, you have to pay yourself?

21:30 I: yeah

21:31 R: and before we talked a little bit about trust, so do you feel that you can trust more in the government now or less?

22:17 I: sometimes when they give some things, we trust them but not sure. Sometimes not, sometimes we do. But I think that the leaders now, we have to trust in them because they are saying they will give us money to make the houses, so we have to trust them, there is no any other option than that.

22:51 R: and do you think that the government is open about their plans, politics and everything?

23:14 I: I don't know about these things. No time to like to listening because go to work, come back, not any access for that.

23:34 R: so do you feel, in general, that you have the freedom to choose your own way of living?

23:45 I: yes. We have to satisfied (unclear)

23:52 R: so are satisfied in general with your life?

23:55 I: yes

23:57 R: and do you feel that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

24:07 I: no, nothing changed. The house is like the same, they are just thinking of building the houses, everyone around here are starting to build houses, so he also will build it.

24:24 R: what is the main reason for building a new house?

24:27 I: because this road more bigger, so they cut it – the house. Because of this is also not good for the people, because they just repaired it for temporary living so they need to make a new house.

Housewife: She is happy because nothing happened to my children and my family, I am satisfied with this.

25:11 R: are there some things that your value more now after the earthquake?

25:35 I: shelter is important things for the people, without shelter it is not good.

25:43 R: you realized after the earthquake that it was very important?

25:47 I: yeah

25:48 R: and do you think that the earthquake has given you any opportunities that you did not have before?

26:01 I: nothing

26:04 R: there nothing positive about it?

26:07 I: no.

26:10 R: and is there anything that you would like to add?...

26:23 I: like eh, he needs also like last year when they helping us to build transitional houses, so if VIN can help us for making the houses, it would be better for us.

26:39 R: so like giving manpower, materials...

26:42 I: anything from the VIN

26:50 R: okay I will note it. That is it. Danyabat.

Dharma, Interview 02.05

- **Date:** 30.03.17
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 5.
- **Survey no.:** 02.05
- **Reference:** Dharma
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** D, no. 5
- **Duration:** 23:09
- **Language:** Nepali
- **Gender:** male

- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

R thanks the IP for participating (not recorded).

00:14 I: my name is X. I am 49 years old. There are 3 members in the family: one son, husband and wife. He has a daughter but she already got married so does not live here.

00:42 R: and is the son in school?

00:47 I: he is not, he is working. He is a driver.

00:52 R and what is your work?

01:05 I: work in the field, work on the others people's field also. Involved in agriculture

01:20 R: and can you describe your experience during the earthquake to me?

02:08 I: he was working on the field and he was very thirsty and he wanted to come to drink water and when he was here he felt it was earthquake. He saw the upper house fall down and thinking what is happening to my house, but nothing to these houses. So...

03:02 I: his wife was also working in the field, the son was in Kathmandu but in the evening he came back to the house.

03:16 R: but his house was not damaged?

03:20 I: yeah just cracked and nothing happened. It was, they put this more later, they repaired a little bit.

03:32 R: so now they feel that it is more safe?

03:34 I: yeah, they don't have any choice to live other places, so they have to stay here.

03:39 R: they would rather stay here than in a transitional shelter?

03:42 I: they have also, they are staying in transitional shelter also now. Storage they keep here, the food, the other things they keep it here.

04:16 R: and do you have any plans of building a new house?

04:40 I: yeah he is planning to build a house, he is now collecting the materials. Like he already bring bricks, already stone, already started to build it.

04:50 R: and it is also somewhere else?

04:58 I: yeah near here. Not this house.

05:02 R: did he had to pay for the new land or did he get it for free?

05:04 I: it is his own land from way back.

05:11 R: and what has been the most challenging for you since the earthquake?

05:31 I: yeah for living is very problem, creating problem, when there is wind in the roof felt off, when raining also difficult so far living in the shelter it is difficult.

05:52 R: have you received any kind of help since the earthquake?

06:34 I: yeah money, food, also transitional shelter from VIN. There is no any other organization, just VIN. No the community also didn't help him. The people from the community, they didn't come here to help him build the transitional shelter or repair the houses, but he went to other people for building houses. For free.

07:33 R: and what the government has done so far, since the earthquake, are you satisfied with that?

08:25 I: yeah the help from the government until now: I am satisfied with this. This is enough for us now, but they need to help more us because the money is not enough for making houses so I need the money for buying the iron and cement but all the materials I already bringing here, only iron and cement are left, so if I had that too then I start to build house.

08:55 R: so, so far it is okay, but you need more?

08:57 I: yeah

09:00 R: do you think that the help has been fairly distributed in the community?

09:26 I: yes, it was fair.

09:31 R: and if you were the government how would you help the people?

10:09 I: if I was the government I would help the people who need it, like what they ask for us, like the government. They ask for food, for money or any kind, what they want. I think, what they are needed, actually listening to what they need.

10:35 R: and if people ask for example food or money, how would you give it to them?

11:18 I: there is many donation from the international people and take the donation and distribute to them and the food also, in the Terai part of Nepal they crops a lot so take from there and bring them up to the really affected people.

11:42 R: and after the earthquake do you feel that you have access to political freedom, such as expressing your opinions?

12:42 I: there is no access to speak with them, because they are not listening to us. The help they have received from the national government, they just use that on their own way, they didn't ask us: what to do? What do

you need? They just give as they want, so there is no access to speak with them and they never listen to us.

13:14 R: and what about economic facilities: job opportunities, money, loan – do you have more access to it now than before?

13:36 I: no. no anything, no access.

13:43 R: and what about social opportunities have you received some extra services? Healthcare? Extra like education?

14:30 I: no free education. No health service. There is one health post, that is not good health post.

14:41 R: why do you think it is bad?

14:46 I: because if the people have a problem of headache they give different medicine, they give no... They never go there, they are have been there but they didn't give good care.

15:00 R: so they don't really trust the health center?

15:02 I: yeah.

15:03 R: are do you trust more in the government now than before the earthquake?

15:17 I: I am in fully trust with them, they will do something for us. Even if it was late, if they work like time – later, they will do.

15:36 R: and do you think they are open about their plans? Politics?

15:53 I: actually I don't know. They are open when there is election or something, they are open with us but otherwise no.

16:10 R: so right now, yes they tell us...

16:13 I: they say we will do, we will do, we will help the community, vote for us!

16:19 R: and will you vote in the election that comes?

16:33 I: I think I will not go this time. I will not go in this time.

16:50 R: and why not?

16:56 I: because if nothing happen even if they win or not, I will not go.

17:07 R: and in general do you feel that you have the freedom to choose your own way of living?

17:22 I: yes he is satisfied with his life, there is no any pressure or something.

17:28 R: he lives the life he wants to?

17:29 I: yes.

17:30 R: he doesn't want to change anything?

17:35 I: yeah he has the option to choose his life. I am satisfied with this.

17:48 R: in general, do you feel that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

- Interrupted by the housewife offering food.

18:50 T: okay next question

18:52 R: yes it was: do you feel that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

19:11 I: it has changed a lot in the community, not only me. Before people are staying in their house, now people, everyone are staying in shelter, it was very difficult to live for everyone.

19:34 R: has the feeling in the community changed? Are people more sad or worried now than before?

19:50 I: yeah people feel very sad because everyone are now thinking about house: how to make, other things.

20:02 R: so the atmosphere has changed a little bit since the earthquake?

20:06 I: yes.

20:07 R: and are there some things that value more now than before the earthquake?

20:34 I: the important thing is for living: house, we need to make it very good. It should be 3 plan, good structures, so house is important.

- Housewife interrupt

21:26 R: and do you think that the earthquake has given you any opportunities that you did not have before?

21:41 I: no opportunity.

21:44 R: the atmosphere in the community has changed but are the people getting closer together now? Do you feel that you know the people around you better now than before the earthquake?

22:07 I: no, the same as before.

22:22 R: is there anything you would like to add or talk about?

22:32 I: is the organisation can help us to give the materials it was better for us and I will build the house, so I hope help from you guys,

22:55 R: okay I will note in my report. Thank you very much for participating, it is kind of you.

Meera, Interview 03.05

- **Date:** 30.03.17
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 5.
- **Survey no.:** 03.05
- **Reference:** Meera
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** D, no. 6
- **Duration:** 15:28
- **Language:** Nepali
- **Gender:** male
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:01 R: first of all I would like to thank you for participating, it is very nice of you. You understand right?

00:13 I: yes a little

00:15 R: so thank you and can you tell me something about yourself?

00:31 I: my name is X, I am 25 years.

00:42 R: do you live here with your family?

00:49 I: yes with in family

00:53 R: and how many people are you in your family?

00:55 I: four people: me my daughter, my husband and my mother in law.

01:07 R: and what are you working with?

01:10 I: I am housewife

01:15 R: and have you been to school?

01:28 I: in university but left

01:35 R: why?

01:41 I: no time to study

01:44 R: you have to take care of your family?

01:45 I: yes

01:49 R: and can you describe your experience under the earthquake to me?

02:27 I: I took shower in the bathroom, the baby he was born 8 days after the earthquake, she was pregnant at the time. The husband was not in the house. The mother in law, was with her, taking shower.

02:53 R: and what did you do? Like left the shower?

02:57 I: they just stayed there, it was okay, they didn't go out, they couldn't

03:04 R: and what happened to your house?

03:12 I: it was not totally damaged, only a few cracks.

03:22 R: so do you live here now?

03:26 I: yes.

03:29 R: it is safe to live in now?

03:30 I: yes, now it is.

03:36 R: so you will stay here for now and not build a new house?

03:44 I: not now, after 1-2 years

03:51 R: and what has been the most difficult for you since the earthquake?

04:23 I: for living it was a bit difficult because sometimes live somewhere, sometimes live somewhere, not a fixed place to stay so I just moved around.

04:33 R: you didn't have shelter in the meantime? You stayed with some family?

04:38 I: yeah she also had a shelter at the time

04:40 R: okay but she lives here now?

04:41 I: yeah

04:45 R: okay and have you received any kind of help after the earthquake?

04:53 I: tent, some plastic tent, some blankets, some food, money from the government. Food and blanket from other local people. That time many people from India and China to distribute.

T talking about own experience with distributing aid/relief after earthquake

05:40 R: and the money got from the government will you save them to build a new house or?

05:52 I: I don't know

05:55 R: right now you just save them. And have you helped anyone else around here?

06:12 I: no they didn't help and she also didn't help.

06:16 R: and do you think that help has been distributed fairly?

06:41 I: not fair! Some people get more, some people get low. Some people doesn't know what they are getting, some people take too much. There is not good communication about the things and lack of communication, the people come more and more to bring the

materials and help the people: some people get the information that they are coming but some people doesn't get, so it should be fair, so everybody should know when the people are coming.

07:25 R: and so what the government has done so far are you satisfied with that after the earthquake?

07:57 I: not satisfied.

08:02 R: so if you were the government, how would you help the people?

08:28 I: finalise the victim people of the country and which places are most affected, finalise first that. Later help people what they need.

08:42 R: do you know how you would help them?

09:00 I: there is many donation from the international country, the country is getting many help form the international, so use that money and actual give them money, like not use badly, like any place. Use it in a proper way. More money to the really affected people and less money to the less affected.

09:31 R: and after the earthquake do you feel that you have access to political freedom?

10:0:7 I: actually I don't know about these things, but the people are talking with the political people when they are not getting something. They are not happy. In my case, we get everything so I don't have to talk with the government because I get what I need.

10:29 R: so do you also feel that you have access to economic facilities?

10:36 I: some money from the government, talk with anyone, the people come here and give money, go to local government and they are also giving the chance to get money but not loan.

10:50 R: what about after the earthquake, do you have access to social services? Like when you were giving birth, did you get help?

11:13 I: no chance, I had to pay when I gave birth.

11:19 R: okay and you went to the hospital?

11:20 I: yes, in Kathmandu.

11:25 R: and how much do you pay?

11:36 I: like around 12.000 Rs, so not too much

11:43 R: and do you feel that you can trust more in the government now after the earthquake?

11:57 I: I don't trust, not before – not now

12:06 R: is it because they are not telling you what they are doing pr?

12:10 I: yes.

12:16 R: and do you feel that you have the freedom to choose your own way of living.

12:19 I: no, she is satisfied with her life.

12:32 R: so you are happy with your life?

12:34 I: yes.

12:35 R: you live the life you want to live?

12:37 I: yes

12:41 R: and in general do you feel that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

12:50 I: nothing

12:52 R: it is the same as before? But now you have a family

12:52 I: yes.

13:01 R: are there some things that you value more now than before the earthquake?

13:13 I: house.

13:19 R: and do you think that the earthquake has given opportunities? Like are there any positive things about it?

13:43 I: nothing

13:46 R: not the extra money or something?

13:46 I: nothing.

13:48 R: is there anything you would like to add or talk about?

14:29 I: nothing

14:32 R: can I ask you what you studied in university?

14:37 I: management

14:38 R: management of?

14:47 I: nothing, just management

14:50 R: and do you want to work with management or stay a housewife?

15:04 I: there is no time to go, to go continue studies. I want to do but there is no time for me.

Record stop: R thanks I for participating.

Parjana, Interview 01.06

- **Date:** 05.04.2017
- **Location:** Ward 6, Okharpauwa
- **Survey no.:** 01.06
- **Reference:** Prajana
- **Oral consent:** yes,
- **Folder:** B, no. 7
- **Duration:** 40:47
- **Language:** Nepali
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:02 R: first of all I would like to thank you for participating, it is very kind of you. Can you tell me a little bit about yourself?

00:17 I: my name is X. 30 years old. There are 5 members: two sons, one daughter and husband and wife. Husband do like agriculture. The children are studying, bigger one is studying in grade 12 and daughter is studying grade 9 and he is the little one, studying in grade 5 (pointing at boy next to us)

01:38 R: and what about her, do you have an education

01:46 I: no just do agriculture and like that.

01:54 R: can you describe your experience under the earthquake to me?

03:03 I: working on the field and then all the family and he was not here (youngest son). He was with relatives so in the later, when she knew the information that he was okay over there. They have two houses around here, but two are totally damaged, everything was collapsed.

03:45 I: not only the house was destroyed, also the crops inside the house were destroyed but animal were okay.

04:03 R: so now they have to remove the house and build a new one or what?

04:08 I: yeah they are planning to build the house here (pointing in front of us)

04:15 R: and do they know when they will finish the new house? Does she have a plan for it?

04:48 I: there is no any other family member who has income source or something so not planned for this year. Maybe next year, we will start

05:03 R: do they sell their crops?

05:15 I: they sell it but not in good price.

I talking

06:06 I: the oldest son he has a small work in Kathmandu he starts in morning and he working in day but others are students, she has to pay school fee and everything. Her husband he doesn't work too much, he is like very slow. So no plan for this year to make house, only the government give the money, that is why she made it plain here (ready space for new house).

I talking

08:10 I: it is very expensive to make house. T says: there are many design of the government according to the money, the

government will make this design for you. This is okay for the house because there are not so many people in the family so go there (to government) and see (design).

08:36 R: so she doesn't know this opportunity?

08:29 I: she knows the design but she don't want to make like same, she want to make like a good permanent house.

08:48 R: okay, so she does not want to use the one from the government?

08:51 I: no

08:54 R: okay I understand. Can you tell me a little bit about your life standards before the earthquake? How were they before?

09:26 I: before she was doing some agriculture and production of alcohol. Doing that and life standard: earning money form that.

09:47 R: and how have they changed since the earthquake? How are they now?

10:55 I: during the earthquake time all the crops were ready to sell but earthquake happened, so all the markets were closed, everything was closed. She had lost almost 2 million Rs from the crops. So from that now always not good. So if I could sell that at that time, I would now have some good, I can run my life, but now nothing like that. Now worse than before.

11:32 R: okay so what has been the most difficult for you?

12:15 I: most of the difficult things is running the life, like normally so it was difficult to have life standards. Crops doing new things, farming is difficult.

I talking

13:37 I: explaining like last week she had very good feed with the crops, some days, some days damaged. So have to do it all over again.

13:55 R: so things like that keep happening to her? Like struggles?

14:00 I: mmmh (meaning yes)

14:03 R: and she lives in this shelter?

14:04 I: yes

14:07 R: have you received any kind of help after the earthquake?

16:03 I: they received some food and it was like enough for them for 1,5 month and then also receive some money directly form the government like 7000 and shelter. And also VIN gave shelter to them. Just that. Food from the people, who bring food.

16:36 R: and are you expecting to get more help from the government? Like money? More money?

17:36 I: they have to do pillars here, first, then take more installment from the government, to do the pillar I need more money. I think I will not get more money.

17:56 R: why not?

I talking

19:55 T: okay next question

19:57 R: what was she explaining?

19:59 T: she was just explaining about the house

20:00 R: okay like how she wants to build it or what?

20:02 T: she want to make house, like this with roof and a new road, will bigger so.

20:17 R: but she thinks she will only get money for the foundation and no more, or what?

20:21 I: think like, if she is going to start build house then she will get more money

20:33 R: do you think that the help has been distributed fairly in the community?

21:30 I: it was not fair action from the government, from the political parties. Some of the people got transitional shelter but doesn't get. Like all the political parties are from here, so all the people around this community have get that but still thinks that some people get and some doesn't get it.

22:00 R: and are satisfied with the help you have received so far?

22:19 I: yes satisfied until now like the help from others and the government, the people – what she received is good but she want to get more help to build the houses.

I and T talking

23:57 T: okay next question

23:58 R: I didn't get the answer

23:59 T: what was the question?

24:00 R: the question was like eh if she was satisfied with the help, oh right, she said yes. So what is she talking about?

24:21 I: if you can also help from an organization, you can help us with thing like materials, manpower, money. Anything.

24:36 R: okay I see. And if you were the government how would you help the affected people?

25:07 I: help from the government: I was there I would distribute fairly to the people, not discrimination. Like see who is first really affected and give them.

25:27 R: okay and after the earthquake do you feel that you have access to political freedom? Like that you can tell your opinions and express yourself to the government?

26:02 I: she has no power to go there and talk with them: I am uneducated I can't, they don't listen to us.

26:16 R: would you like to get information or education about this?

26:36 I: yeah interested.

26:42 R: okay. Do they have women groups here or?

26:48 I: when we are going somewhere like we can be able to talk with the help (unclear)

27:42 I: there is like informal education but established over here but people from this community, especially men, they don't let the women go somewhere and do things.

28:00 R: okay, so it would be difficult to establish a women group here?

28:04 I: yeah the are rude. (unclear) and for women: Why do you need to go there?

I talking

28:27 R: so VIN does not have a women group here?

28:28 T: no

I and T talking

29:00 I: she has like 6 sister and 2 brother in family so it was difficult for our father to send us to school in that time.

I and T talking

29:50 R: so what about economic facilities after the earthquake? You received some money, do you have access to loans, or have is it going with your business of selling the food and alcohol and so on? Is it better now or worse?

30:37 I: it was not good like, no people trust them to give the loan. For the crops selling it is worse: like all the crops they sell on low price.

30:55 R: because people cannot pay so much as before or why is it worse now?

31:02 I: like most of the people are involved in the same field, like after earthquake, like competition, more people involved because before earthquake people had jobs or something after earthquake they leave job and go back to their homes and start to do something on their own place, so low price.

31:30 R: okay and what about the alcohol business is it better now or worse than before the earthquake?

31:32 I: she leave it, she doesn't have it anymore because when she started it, her husband always drink so she had to leave that.

31:37 R: okay and what about social opportunities, have you received any healthcare, any other... like they have no women groups here, but are there any other social groups that you can join around you after the earthquake?

32:39 I: there is no any women group here but in some part, there is women group, not in this areas but other part, she was there. The people are not good here: they took the loan (referring to micro credit) and leave the groups but the groups have to pay so she leave.

33:38 I: there is no any facility of education, no free education.

34:22 I: I am always worried about my daughter: like I don't want her to have the same life as me. She can study, have a good life. Compared to son, because son can do anything, whatever they want. If they don't do agriculture, they can drive, they can do some

things and find good jobs but for the girl it is difficult in Nepal, so: do something for her, so she can do something.

34:39 R: and what about you? Do you feel that you have the freedom to choose your own way of living?

35:12 I: yeah she is satisfied.

35:14 R: she just wants something else for her daughter?

35:15 I: yes.

35:18 R: after the earthquake do you trust more or less in the government?

35:28 I: she does not trust. No trust.

35:58 I: only government, work to the like who is leading in the community, all the money they take: the (national) government trust them and give (to local government) but they are not listening and talking with them.

36:18 R: so they are not here, like, she doesn't trust that they will help her or what?

36:23 I: yeah like, only the government help the people who raise their voices, like, the leader of the political party, who can speak they go there and talk with them,

36:37 R: okay but not like the really affected?

36:40 R: okay do you feel that the government is open about their plans and budgets?

35:45 I: yeah she says government say: we will give, we will do this for you, to the public, to the victim, the earthquake victim people but they don't do, like us, only for some people.

37:05 R: and in general do you feel that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

37:53 I: yeah before she was staying in houses now staying in this type of shelter.

When she was staying in the houses, always all day in the house and when she go to the community and all other places, she... all the people... (unclear).

38:19 R: did it happen to all? The same things?

38:21 I: all the people these things

38:24 R: so like worrying about the house... (interrupted by I)

38:46 I: she was already like worried, the destroying, the shelter is – when there is big win, so this is not good to stay. For the earthquake it is good but for the other things not.

39:00 R: no and they are like 5 people living in here now or more?

39:05 I: 4

39:10 R: are there some things that are valuable to you now than before the earthquake?

39:30 I: house is important

39:35 R: and do you think that the earthquake has given you any opportunities or anything positive that you did not have before?

39:50 I: no, nothing

39:52 R: no okay. Is there anything you would like to add or talk about we have not talked about?

40:13 I: she is asking, like, a bit help: the materials not money. Materials for the houses, it would be very good for me.

40:27 R: okay, I will note that. Then I would just like to thank you for participating, it is very kind of you.

Ganesh, Interview 01.07

- **Date:** 28.03.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 7.
- **Survey no.:** 01.07
- **Reference:** Ganesh
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** none, apparently record was deleted.
- **Duration:** 15-20 min IP was in a hurry – had to go to work
- **Language:** Nepali
- **Gender:** male
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

IP: young male of 21 years working as a driver. Finished until level 8 in school and stopped because his friend started driving and he could see that is was fun and the friend earned money. There are 6 people in the house: wife, mother, father and two siblings.

The IP is a shy and hesitant guy, who does not know what to answer to many of the questions.

He was in the field when the earthquake happened, so was the family and they were all safe. The family has received personal donations to build the temporary shelter, they are living in now. The donations went to build

a construction of bamboo and a roof of tin, the rest the family had to provide themselves: the walls, which are made of bamboo and clay. It is mainly one room separated by a “half door of card and blanket” in front is the kitchen and behind the sleeping arrangements. The family does not have a toilet. Not fixed for building new house.

- Political freedom: IP does not know what to answer, does not know anything about politics
- Economic facilities: have received money from the government and working as driver, but would like more money
- Social opportunities: have received free healthcare/medicine since the health center is close, not free education and no other social services
- Transparency guarantee: IP do not trust the government but think they are open about their plan and budgets.
- Protective security: IP received relief after earthquake, money from government and medicine and food.

Does not feel that life has changed a lot, IP is satisfied with his life and think he is back to normal except from house.

The most difficult has been the shelter, not living in a proper house.

IP values shelter and family more now that before the EQ. IP does not see any opportunities in EQ.

Padma, Interview 02.07

- **Date:** 28.03.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 7.
- **Survey no.:** 02.07
- **Reference:** Padma
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** C, no. 4
- **Duration:** 16:48
- **Language:** Nepali
- **Gender:** female (+ half part husband, male)
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:04 R: first of all I would like to thank you for participating, it is very kind of you. Can you tell me a little bit about yourself?

00:23 I: my name is X, I am doing agriculture. There are 3 members staying here, she, he and one daughter. 11 years old. The IP is 50 years old.

01:18 R: and is the daughter in school?

01:24 I: yes in grade 6.

01:31 R: can you describe your experience under the earthquake to me?

02:15 I: there in the field and working. All the 3 member was here, working in the field so nothing happened to everyone. She was very afraid. In they are staying 3 months in a plastic tent after the earthquake.

02:43 R: and was you house totally destroyed.

02:50 I: yes, totally destroyed

02:53 R: and how long time have you lived in the shelter?

03:00 I: 2 years.

03:02 R: okay, and do you have any plans of building a new house?

03:07 I: yes. They are brining some material for the sand here.

03:19 R: so they are actually in the process of building a house?

03:22 I: in the process yes

03:24 R: okay, do you know when it will finish?

03:44 I: yeah maybe for the houses, they are now collecting the materials and sand, they are brining some iron and they are planning here so maybe one month they will start building the house. So they are waiting for the help, if somebody help also we will start soon

04:07 R: okay so they are mainly waiting for manpower or?

04:10 I: manpower and also some money

04:15 R: have you received any kind of help after the earthquake?

04:40 I: they are receiving some food, some money – like that.

04:44 R: the same kind of money as the others?

04:46 I: yeah.

04:51 R: like 10.000 and then also 50.000?

04:55 I: yeah and the food and the 50.000 they are starting to collect

05:01 R: and have you received from any others than the government: community, friends, family?

05:15 I: no

05:16 R: and have you helped anyone?

05:20 I: no

05:23 R: do you feel that the help has been distributed fairly in this community?

05:43 I: it was not fair, some of the people get some of the people doesn't get it.

05:46 R: do you know why some do and some don't?

05:59 I: actually I don't now why, but I think it is because when the people came here to take the data some people missing, some people mistaking, wrong data. I am not sure but I think so.

06:20 R: and what the government has done after the earthquake, are you satisfied with that?

06:41 I: the help is not enough for us, we need more help.

06:50 R: and what kind of help are you looking for?

07:11 I: better materials is important so if they can give that, better materials it will be better.

07:22 R: and after the earthquake do you feel that you have access to political freedom?

08:00 I: they didn't talk with any political, any government here. They are just listening but don't do, so it is not good.

08:14 So they don't listen to what they say?

08:17 I: yes

08:18 R: but do they, in general, feel that they can express their opinions?

08:25 I: yeah, they express their things, but the people don't listen.

08:31 R: and after the earthquake do you feel that you have access to economic facilities such as money, loan, job opportunities?

08:47 I: no

08:50 R: not even the money you received from the government?

08:54 I: no, we didn't get any loan, the people will not give loan because they think they will not give them back

09:03 R: so only like the money you got?

09:05 I: from the government? Yes

09:06 R: and what about social opportunities such as healthcare, free education for your children, some services?

09:49 I: yeah they are able to receive service, they are student are also getting free education, only they have to pay 20 % of the money, for the year and then also they receiving free health service because here is one of the government's free health-center.

10:12 R: just wondering, if someone from another ward would walk over here could they also get free health care?

10:19 T: yes it is a free center for everyone.

10:23 R: okay so they feel that they have access to that?

10:23 T: yes.

10:31 R: do you feel that you can trust more in the government now than before the earthquake?

10:44 I: yeah they are believing in the government. I think the government will help us to build the houses.

10:54 R: so you do feel that the government is open about their plans and what they are going to do?

Interrupted by T's phone

12:11 I: yeah they are going with the planning, like what the government is going to do, they are giving news to the public. They are open to the public about their plans

12:26 R: so in general do you feel that you have the freedom to choose your own way of living?

12:41 I: their own way

12:43 R: so you are satisfied with your life right now?

12:48 I: yes

12:51 R: and in general, do you feel that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

13:16 I: it was the same before and after, nothing changed.

13:20 R: except from the house I guess, right?

13:22 I: yeah, but the normal life standards are the same

13:32 R: and is there something that you value more now than before the earthquake?

14:06 I: yeah house is the most important thing because for the poor people they can't have much money to build the houses every time, so I think house is the most important thing.

14:19 R: what has been the most challenging for you after the earthquake?

14:32 I: the biggest challenge is making the house.

14:35 R: like making the house or living in the shelter?

14:38 I: making the houses, it is very difficult. Like collecting money, collecting things, it is very difficult.

14:48 R: and has there been anything positive about the earthquake? Any opportunities?

15:06 I: yeah one good thing is that before, before we couldn't get any help from the government but now after the earthquake we are getting help. This is one of the good things.

15:19 R: okay so you think that the government is improving?

15:20 I: improving and it will do better for the public, I think so.

15:27 R: is there anything you would like to talk about or add that we have not talked about?

15:41 I + husband: we are very old, we have only one daughter so help us to build our houses. Talk to your government, donations, donor and help us to build our houses.

15:56 R: okay. She is 50 and how old is he (husband)?

16:02 I: no, she is 60 and he is 69.

16:07 R: so you cannot build the house on your own, you need some men to build the house?

16:11 I: some help, so if you help it is better.

16:16 R: okay, I would like thank them for helping me.

Daya, Interview 03.07

- **Date:** 28.03.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 7.
- **Survey no.:** 03.07
- **Reference:** Daya
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** C, no. 5
- **Duration:** 21:10
- **Language:** Nepali
- **Gender:** female
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:03 R: ... it is very kind of you. Can you tell me a little bit about yourself?

00:23: 29 years old, I am doing agriculture and animal feeding: some goats. There are 4 member: she, her husband, her son and daughter. Son is starting in grade 3 and daughter is starting in grade 2. Her husbands does the same work.

01:28 R: and have you been to school

01:34 I: no

01:41 R: so you have worked in agriculture your whole life?

01:41 I: yes.

01:46 R: can you tell about your experience under the earthquake?

02:08 I: they were working in the field and then they heard the earthquake shakes, they just run over to the river, like the side of the river. All, everyone was over here.

02:31 R: and when you came back was you house damaged or?

02:39 I: it was just like this, it was cracked and later they repaired it and then stay here.

02:51 R: okay, so this is their house now?

02:54 I: they are building a new house down.

03:02 R: so they got a new land to build a new house?

03:06 I: yes their own land and they are building there.

03:11 R: but right now they are still living in this house, do they feel it is safe to live here?

03:19 I: now staying is good but water is coming from the sides, from the whole, when it was big rain but otherwise it is okay.

03:38 R: so you have planning of building a new house, do you know when it will be finished?

03:51 I: maybe in 1,5 month.

03:53 R: okay, you already have the materials?

03:54 I: yeah, already started building.

03:57 R: and did you get any help for this (new house)?

04:07 I: no only the help we got from other people like the government, just tha.t

04:11 R: so 10.000 and 50.000?
04:13 I: yes 10.00, 7.000 and another.
04:22 R: have you got a loan or did you have some money before?
04:29 I: yeah a loan
04:33 R: from the bank or?
04:39 I: from relatives.
04:44 R: and have you helped anyone else?
04:50 I: n.
04:53 R: and do you feel that the help the government has given has been distributed fairly around?
05:20 I: yeah, some of the people get, some of the people doesn't get. I think it was a mistake from the government. Collecting the data from the people. So it was not fair, everybody should get, everybody need to get money, but they didn't.
05:45 R: so how would she make sure that... like that the government comes here again and do a check or what?
06:04 I: maybe the people who didn't get they have to go to the local government, like visit it and register name and they will get the money.
06:18 R: and are you satisfied with the help you have received so far? Not only from the government but also from your family?
T talks on the phone
09:46 R: so I asked the question, she answered – do you remember what she answered?
09:49 T: what was the question
09:50 R: before the phone call. What was the question...

10:14 I: yeah yeah, the loan they have to give back again that is not for our own property so we need some help, the help is not satisfying from the government, so if the government give some more money or some other place or organization can help and give more money to us then we can give back the money to our relatives.
10:45 R: and what has been the most difficult or challenging for you since the earthquake?
11:04 I: living is most important, so one of the things is living in shelter because when it was small rain, leakages and water go inside. So for living is more problem since last year until now.
11:38 R: so if you were the government how would help the affected people?
12:08 I: actually I don't know these political things but if I was in the government I can help the people, like who is victim
12:19 R: so you think that the government can help the people you just don't know how?
12:22 I: yeah, she don't know
12:26 R: but do you feel that the government is doing a good job?
12:36 I: it is good but they should improve more.
12:42 R: and in general do you think that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?
12:54 I: nothing changed, only the houses also same.
12:59 R: are you looking forward to move into your new house
13:05 I: yeah, I am happy to finish here and go living here.
13:10 R: are you planning to build a toilet in the new house?

13:15 I: yes.

13:18 R: so after the earthquake do you feel that you have access to political freedom?

13:43 I: no access to go there, like no time to be there but I am satisfied with my life.

13:57 R: so you are satisfied with all the services you have?

14:02 I: yeah provided by the government

14:04 R: you would not like more or what?

14:05 I: she is satisfied with the help so she is not able to go there.

14:13 R: no, now I am thinking more in general like for example health care? Would like to have healthcare, if something happened to you, you were secured?

14:22 T: healthcare?

14:22 R: yeah from the government, like you can buy an insurance of healthcare, so they give you free healthcare so if you were for example on a motorbike and you fall down, you want to make sure that you are in the hospital for free?

14:55 I: for the other accident things, they will help but like for normal sick, if you feel fever or something if need to check our whole body, we need to pay the money.

15:17 R: okay and would like it all to be free?

15:39 I: yeah if the government can do the fee health, it would be nice for us. But for the money any private hospital or government hospital we need to pay, so it doesn't matter. In government hospital, if the government so free, it would be better.

15:58 R: if there was one thing you could choose to improve your life, what would that be?

16:30 I: good job opportunity and good building, good houses and good education to the children

16:46 R: and after the earthquake do you trust more in the government?

16:58 I: I think they will help, we are just thinking they will help and start to build the houses, maybe they will help us – so the trust is more.

17:12 R: okay and do you feel that they are open about their plans?

17:20 I: yes, the people they are open, they are saying: we are doing this, doing this – they are open to the public.

17:28 R: do you believe that they will do it?

17:36 I: maybe they will do, not sure

17:40 R: is there something that you value more now after the earthquake?

18:14 I: now she is always afraid of earthquake: maybe it will come again and again. Family is important and money is important, I think so.

18:25 R: okay, would you like to get more information about earthquakes: what to do, how to prepare for it?

19:01 I if somebody came here and tell about the things is better, tell more new things: like how to build new house, like earthquake proof houses.

19:15 R: so you would feel more secure and now so afraid?

19:20 I: yes

19:23 R: do you think that the earthquake has resulted in anything positive for you?

19:37 I: nothing good but we get some help from the government.

19:44 R: would had build the new house if the earthquake didn't happen?

19:58 I: maybe, not fixed.

20:00 R: no like...

20:01 T: yeah yeah I understand your question but she said not fixed, maybe we will would build the house or not and just stay here, so not fixed.

20:10 R: but they didn't think of building a new house before the earthquake?

20:12 I: not sure about that, but now they are thinking.

20:20 R: yeah okay and is there anything you would like to talk about, we have not talked about?

20:36 I: yes, there is nothing to say but if you can help us, you can help to make our houses. With the thing you can help us.

20:51 I: donation, donation like VIN or other organization, you can talk with them.

20:58 R: hopefully my research can help. Danyabat.

Sumira, Interview 01.08

- **Date:** 27.03.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 8
- **Survey no.:** 01.08
- **Reference:** Sumira
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** B, no. 4.
- **Duration:** 50:13
- **Language:** Nepali
- **Gender:** female
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:02 R: okay, first of all I would like to thank you for participating, it is very kind of you. Can you tell me a little bit about yourself?

00:24 I: my name is X. 23 years old, high school, is a housewife. There are 5 member in the family: two sister, two brother and one mother. One of the brothers is doing small business in Nepal and one is abroad for working, in Malaysia. The sister is doing some small job and also starting in university.

02:23 R: so you work in the field, you cook...

02:30 I: she is just working in the house, she has a small baby, taking care of the baby and cooking sometimes. There is not much time for more.

02:37 R: is she married?

02:39 I: she is married.

02:42 R: and the husband lives here too?

02:45 I: no not here, he live in different part – for work.

03:02 can you describe your experience during the earthquake for me?

04:35 I: I was praying in the church in what time when the earthquake happened. I was nervous and afraid too. I was trying to call over here, one time it was ringing and then she heard on the news that family was okay but all the house was destroyed here. And the family were in the field for corn harvesting. These are some moments and memorable things for her.

05:17 R: she was inside the church?

05:19 I: inside the church, just praying.

05:20 R: okay and what church? Like what religion?

05:23 I: she was in a Cristian church

05:31 R: and during the last year what challenges have you experienced? Or what has been the most difficult the last year?

06:49 I: most of the difficult part is for living, for shelter and after the earthquake all te crops were totally destroyed in the house, they were inside the house and could not be used anymore. So in that time, in that period, there was nothing harvesting on the field, everything was inside the house. So most difficult thing, is for us also a small baby, cold to stay in this type of shelter. Later they found some food but in the period of the earthquake it was difficult, for one to two months, it was difficult because all the crops were destroyed from the house.

07:45 R: but now the crops are okay

07:48 I: it's okay, they harvesting more, so it is good now.

07:53 R: and where was the house?

08:02 I: not here. She has two houses: one is this (pointing at an empty ground next to us)

and one is down in the valley. Both are destroyed.

08:25 R: and will you build a new house?

09:00 I: they are planning to build new houses, they are just waiting for the government, still now.

09:09 R: so they want to build a new house the same place?

09:09 I: yes.

09:11 R: have you received any kind of help from the government?

(mother answering this question, while IP is listening)

11:50 I: yeah from after the earthquake they have received some money from the government, first they received 10.000 and after that they received 15.000. from the local organization and cooperatives they received some tin/roof material to build shelter. But now they didn't receive 50.000 because for the 50.000 they have to submit their file, like their landownership-file because the government need to see if they have proper land or not to build new houses. They have a land but they don't have a registration, so now they are processing for that. Processing for getting a certificate that states that they own this place. The people know that this land belongs to them but they don't have the ownership paper. So now they are processing for ownership.

13:13 R: so right now they have only received 10.000?

14:53 I: they also received some after food and after the earthquake happened they got the food after one month. In the one month they go to the shopkeeper and they take the food from the shop for one month. They food lasted for like 2-3 months, so that was good for them.

15:23 R: and the ownership they are applying for, is it for the mother to own the place?

15:36 I: yes she is the head of the family.

15:38 R: so she is the owner of the place. And have they received help from anyone else: family, friends the community?

15:58 I: no. the society didn't come to help her, but her son go to help the people to make the shelter.

16:26 R: okay so has been around helping affected people?

16:2 I: yeah.

16:29 R: the one who has a business here?

16:32 I: yes.

16:38 R: do you think that the help has been distributed fairly?

17:04 I: I don't know if they are doing fairly or not but I think they are doing fairly.

17:12 R: so you haven't spoke with other people about what kind of help they have received?

17:16 I: no.

17:21 R: and the help you have received so far are you satisfied with it?

17:37 I: the help is not satisfying for us, we need more money to the build the houses.

17:42 R: so you are not satisfied with the way the government has dealt with this?

17:48 I: yes.

17:54 R: if you were a part of the government how would you help the affected people?

IP taking over again

20:57 I: the government of Nepal they are receiving many help from other countries, like international donation, they have got many

donations from other countries. If I was in the government I would help who are really affected, until now the politics and the political people now. They are just helping the people who have money, like those who have they give more, those who don't have – they are not giving, so they are always in poor condition. So if I was in the government that kind of people, who are really affected: go there, see what is happening now, so I'll do all the things.

21:48 R: and how would you help them?

21:56 I: people they know who are really affected, people from the government they know who is really affected but they are not giving care for them, they are not involved with them, they are not listening, they are just seeing them stay there. If I was are there (government), I would see there, go there, helping them people.

Others interrupt

22:59 R: how would she help the people? Like giving them food, more money, materials, like how?

24:50 I: there are many people, like lots of political people who are staying inside, talking with them, doing positive things there to help the people and facilitate the other people who are like local government people and local political leader, community leader. Facilitate them, help them, train them how to help.

25:20 R: okay, so like trying to tell them that should help the more poor people by giving them information?

25:32 I: yeah and training, people are really affected: I will do these types of things.

25:42 R: so after the earthquake do you feel that you have access to what we call political freedom, which is like that you feel that your

rights are being heard, that you can express your opinions?

27:56 I: the political condition is really bad here. The political leader, they got the help from the government, the budget is here and they got the money, but they don't tell the people that they received the budget and when they get the budget, they are just using the budget themselves. The community people doesn't know that we are getting the budget, only the political leader know and using the money for their own purpose. So the political leaders and their parties are really bad here, like if now, like the community people, sometimes they know and they help the people with the money. After earthquake, recently they are getting 10.000, all the people in Nepal get that so we are also receiving. If not like the political parties they take all the money. They are not doing any development things, not any helping the people.

29:06 R: but before they didn't get any money, now they get the money because of the earthquake but is for all people in Nepal not only for the affected people?

29:14 I: yeah, like most of the money 10.000 and 50.000 was not given by the government but by the red cross society. For that like that, all the money they distributed for everyone, now the 50.000 is from the government that is why the government needs many things like the paper of land – they need everything to be right before they can give them money. They are not giving the money after the earthquake because the political parties are really bad and any budget for development activities – they are not giving the money to development activities. So they are just using for their own.

30:04 R: and do you feel that you can, like tell the government this in any sort of way? Like can use the newspaper to tell them or are you just accepting it the way it is?

Others interrupt

32:49 I: now it is not happening anymore, now people are aware but before they were not aware, now they are developing youth club, the young generation are establishing the youth club here and the women too. They are helping the people from the group, they are getting many help from each other. They have to go to the VDC and... but now they know what is happening to the local government but before not like this. Like some of the people of this community, they even don't know who is leading us, they don't know who is leading the government only the representatives they know what is happening. Like women, like her (pointing at the mother) they don't know who are in government, that is a problem. But now creating, founding women group and youth club, now they get some knowledge.

34:09 R: and did this start before or after the earthquake?

34:12 I: after the earthquake.

34:20 R: have you been offered any kind of loan after the earthquake?

Mother answering again

34:55 I: they were not offered any loans. Like for her younger son opening some furniture business and for that they are getting some loan, it was after the earthquake. But not loan for anything else

35:25 R: and have you been offered any kind of healthcare or free education? Any kind of social service?

35:51 I: she have heard that some medicine are provided in other part, but I have not heard about it here

36:09 R: and what about other social services? Like after the earthquake has the government changed the... like is there free

education in this community or only private schools?

36:28 I: there is no free education

36:30 R: no, only private schools here?

36:49 I: both, they have both like private and government

36:43 R: but they have to pay for the public schools?

37:05 I: up to grade 10 in public school they have to pay 50 % of the money but when they are in high school, grade 11 and 12, they have to pay all the money in the public school.

37:26 R: so we have been talking a little bit about the government and the budget and so on, do you feel that you can trust the government?

37:45 I: I don't trust, like it was very long time even they were not helping until now so I don't have any trust with them.

38:00 R: so would you like them to be more open about their business, their budget and what they do? Like the government to be more open – telling what they are doing?

40:09 I: because the election is coming soon, maybe two months, we have like a new election. So the political people are just raising now: if you help us, we are helping you for building new house. Now they are doing these types of things for the vote: if we are winning I will build your houses. They are telling now and before also they are explaining if they got a budget for the road, constructing road, they are telling the people: now we got the budget, now we are, we have to use these money here and here. Because they know that now the people from the community, they are aware if they are doing, raising something. And also now they are telling give us vote – we are helping you.

41:21 R: and everybody can vote here?

41:22 T: no they have like one votinglist and votingcard, so those who have votingcard they are able to vote. Even me I cant because I don't have my election card.

41:36 R: oh you have to apply for that?

41:36 T: I don't, but I don't like voting. When we are getting the citizenship, we are able to do voting. I received my citizenship like 4-5 year ago but I didn't listed my votinglist – I don't like to vote.

41:56 R: okay would she like to vote?

42:11 I: yes she have (pointing at the mother) and she haven't (IP)

42:35 R: why not?

43:09 R: why didn't she vote?

43:12 I: she don't have voting list and card

43:15 R: ah okay, because she doesn't want to vote or?

43:16 I: nah yeah, she has just received like 2 years ago, like citizenship card and now she is not interested in that.

43:34 R: and how old do have to be to vote? 18?

43:38 T: no when you get citizenship

43:40 R: okay no matter what age. Okay good. I have a few more questions: so do you feel that you have the freedom to choose your own way of living?

44:09 I: living in my own way.

44:16 R: so there is nothing you would change about your life?

44:19 I: yes, she is just living, satisfied with my life, I am earning money – I use my money, I have my own standard, that is okay for me.

44:28 R: in general, do you feel that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

45:49 I: now people are thinking: we have to work! Because before earthquake, she was just giving the example of her family – her mother, they are not interested to work the just want to stay in house or go to friends' house, relaxing but after earthquake they are now involving in work, they think: we have to do something, we have to build our house, save money. Also the mother heard about this thing, and we have to do things and send money to build house. So that are like fast change in our family. I think that in all society here, they have same mind established for working and save money for building new houses

46:41 R: and is there anything that you value more now than before the earthquake?

47:46 I: the most important thing is shelter for the people and the design of the shelter and the structure of the shelter, we have to do

better. Like before the foundation was just, all things are not good but now we know the structure, the foundation, everything should be of good standard.

48:14 R: okay, my final question: do you think that the earthquake has given you any opportunities that you did not have before?

49:22 I: nothing, no positive things. There is no change, no opportunity.

49:35 R: okay. Is there anything would like to add or something we have not talked about, you want to talk about?

49:56 I: no.

49:57 R: it is okay. Okay then I would just like to thank you for participating. Danyabat.

Ameesh, Interview 02.08

- **Date:** 27.03.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 8.
- **Survey no.:** 02.08
- **Reference:** Ameesh
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** B, no. 5.
- **Duration:** 26:31
- **Language:** Nepali
- **Gender:** male
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:07 R: it is only for my own purpose (talking about recording and the translations)

00:46 R: first of all I would like to thank him for participating in this and talking with us, it is very kind of him.

01:02 R: can you tell me a little bit about yourself?

01:31 I: my name is x, I am 80 years old, there are 7 member in family: him, his wife.... He is living with his younger son, and younger he has wife and three son and one daughter. The younger son is driver.

03:06 R: and are his children in school?

03:33 I: two grandson and one granddaughter and they are in school.

03:46 R: and how long have you lived here?

04:03 I: live long (whole life)

04:09 R: can you describe your experience under the earthquake to me?

05:04 I: I was very scared. And his wife was in another room, I was scared, I saw life or dead, I was very scared.

05:27 R: and he was here, outside or?

05:33 I: outside, all family was outside.

05:41 R: okay but he didn't know where his wife was, so he was scared at the moment, but he found out that she was safe?

05:47 I: yeah.

05:49 R: what challenges have you experienced the last year?

06:23 I: in this time they live in "doghouse", not real house.

06:28 R: so they live over here (R pointing at a shelter)

06:29 I: yeah. All food are destroyed by earthquake and these are our last days, I thought these were my last days, I will not live long. I am thinking this type of thing.

06:47 R: okay, so he is sad that his last years are like this. So the house was damaged or destroyed or?

06:54 I: all damaged. No food, no clothes, everything is damaged.

06:59 R: and will they build a new house?

07:08 I: yeah, they will build a small house.

07:11 R: and then stay there for the rest of their life?

07:13 I: yeah.

07:14 R: they will not build a house of bricks?

07:36 I: he think that if any government will help to build the house, yeah then we will build the house.

07:50 R: okay but if not they will stay in this tinlinehouse/shelter?

07:52 I: yeah, they want to build the house but which day he doesn't know.

08:01 R: and have you received any kind of help after the earthquake?

08:17 I: yeah a little bit, the government gave him 10.000 and then 50.000 only. Just that. I was also given tin.

08:41 R: and have you received help from other people? Community, friends, organisations?

08:59 I: no.

09:01 R: okay, have you helped any other?

09:13 I: no.

09:15 R: and do you think that the help you have received from the government has been distributed fairly? That everyone has received the same kind of help?

09:49 I: 10.000 and 15.000 they give everybody, but the 50.000 they only give to some people. He did not get it.

10:12 R: okay, I see. So do you think that. No, are you satisfied with what the government has done so far?

10:43 I: no

10:45 R: why not?

10:46 I: because the government did not give me a lot of money.

10:59 R: okay they gave some money but not him and that is why he is not satisfied?

11:00 I: yeah

11:05 R: if you were the government how would you help the affected people?

12:03 I: if he was a big political man he would give a lot of money to people, build new house for living for poor people and also build road, transportation and establish a good education system.

12:23 R: okay, and where would he get the money from?

12:30 I: yeah government give me.

12:31 R: no but if he was the government and he had to give money, where would he get the money from?

12:36 I: he will collect from any organization.

12:59 R: so after the earthquake, do feel that you have access to political freedom? (to T2 these questions are a little tricky okay? They are a little bit difficult, okay?) so I ask if he feels that he can express himself politically after the earthquake, if he knows about his rights after the earthquake?

13:59 I: yeah they told him, but they do not. He is able to talk with the political parties over here, like all the local government but yeah they are just listening to him but they don't do anything. The things what he gonna tell, they just listen but they don't do.

14:22 R: does he know why they don't do anything about it?

14:54 I: I don't know why they didn't do. I don't know, I think they are (unclear) persons,

they are listening to us, they are just doing that.

15:08 R: and after the earthquake do you think that you have access to money, to loans or like any...?

15:25 I: no

15:32 R: and do you feel that you have received any healthcare after the earthquake?

16:11 I: in other parts, other community, got help, like they god medicine, tablet for the water but here they didn't. not this area, other parts – like not Okharpauwa, other parts of the district (Nuwakot)

16:39 R: and do you have any access or have you received any kind of social service, like free education to the children or another kind of help?

17:17 I: no

17:20 R: and after the earthquake do you trust more or less in the government?

17:49 I: yeah little bit more trust now.

17:56 R: why do you trust them more now?

17:59 I: I hope that the government will build my house. To live there.

18:17 R: and do you feel that the government is open: that they tell about their budget, what they are doing?

18:55 I: the government was only help to build road not house so I don't trust the government to build the house. Only politics man got the deposit but they don't give to the people. They say they will give money to the people to build house but they don't give.

19:33 R: okay, so I does not trust in the government.

19:38 I: little little

19:42 R: a little bit after the earthquake but he does not trust that they will build the house?

19:42 I: yeah

19:52 R: so do you feel that you have the freedom to choose your own way of living now, after the earthquake?

20:20 I: if government give to him good life standard and good food, then he feeling freedom. Good living thing, education, health and then he feel freedom.

20:41 R: so he does not feel freedom now? Or free to choose now?

20:42 I: yeah.

20:59 R: so in general do you feel that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

21:21 I: I believe that one day I'll die in earthquake.

21:33 R: so is he happy now that he survived?

21:34 I: yeah, no he is not happy. He think that his life is not freedom because he is scared of the earthquakes. One day earthquake will come and he will die in earthquake, so he do not feel freedom.

22:02 R: okay so he is afraid that a new earthquake will come and then he will die?

22:08 I: yeah.

22:20 R: but has his changed a lot like in his normal day? Like his normal day before the earthquake and today, is it different?

22:53 I: before the earthquake his living standards is good, we have food, we have

house, we have everything. After the earthquake we don't have food, we don't house, so life is too difficult to live.

23:13 R: but he has food now right?

23:13 I: yeah, little food not a lot.

23:19 R: not like before, he had more food before?

23:22 I: yeah

23:25 R: so are there some things that you value more now than before the earthquake? Are there some things that are more important to him now than before the earthquake?

23:57 I: house.

Others interrupt

24:18 R: do you think that the earthquake has given you any opportunities that you did not have before? Like are there any positive things now after the earthquake?

24:46 I: no, there are no positive things, all things are bad.

25:03 R: is there something you will like to add or talk about that we have not talked about? Something he would like to talk about? I have finished my questions so if he was to talk about something?

25:24 I: if anybody help me... we have no food, we have no house so if any government or any can help me.

26:23 R: so I would like to thank him for participating.

Vikram, Interview 03.08

- **Date:** 27.03.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 8.
- **Survey no.:** 03.08
- **Reference:** Vikram
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** B, no. 6
- **Duration:** 18:51
- **Language:** Nepali
- **Gender:** male
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:01 R: good, so first I would like to thank you for participating. It is very kind of you. Can you tell me a little bit about yourself?

00:17 I: name X, it means life in Nepali. 25 years old.

00:45 R: and what is your occupation?

00:48 I: agriculture.

00:50 R: have you been to school?

01:01 I: yeah he been to the school but only grade 10.

01:07 R: and can you tell me a little bit about your family?

01:18 I: just two, he and his wife.

01:20 R: and do you live around here?

01:26 I: they are just living around here

01:28 R: is a shelter?

01:29 I: yeah in a shelter and wife is doing the same work: agriculture and housewife.

01:37 R: and how long time have you lived here?

01:41 I: my whole life.

01:42 R: can you describe your experience under the earthquake to me?

02:02 I: he was out of the country at that time

02:04 R: okay, what country were you in?

02:08 I: Saudi Arabia.

02:10 R: okay, so your wife was here alone?

02:32 I: he was not married before the earthquake.

02:40 R: okay and what were you doing in Saudi Arabia?

02:50 I: just doing stationary work like printing. He been here 10 days after earthquake.

03:09 R: does he have any other family here in Nepal? Like parents?

03:13 I: yeah his parents, grandfather (IP 02.08)

03:21 R: when the earthquake happened did he try to call them?

03:32 I: he tried to call but not reachable. After 4 days he got the receive, and knew they were okay.

03:52 R: and how were your life standards before the earthquake?

04:10 I: just nothing, like normal day, wake up in the morning and been to the tea shop, drink tea there, come back the house, go the field, do agriculture and do things like that.

04:26 R: and how are they now?

04:32 I: now he is just working like a part of government, like batch, he was doing batch system to the truck. When the truck bring the materials he was doing the batch. He was doing like these things.

04:49 R: today?

04:50 I: no, not now.

04:55 R: and what challenges have you experienced the last year?

05:12 I: like for shelter it was difficult for the last year because all the time it was raining, raining inside the house. For the sleeping there it is cold.

05:50 R: okay, have you received any kind of help after the earthquake?

06:08 I: he haven't give any kinds of help

06:10 R: but has he received any?

06:12 I: no

06:13 R: no money from the government?

06:15 I: only his father received, not him.

06:26 R: what the government has done so far for the affected people, are you satisfied with his?

06:55 I: it was not fair, those people who need to get the help they haven't received because poor people don't have land certificate and other things, so the government. The government need the profile, like land certificate for giving the money, but the poor people doesn't have the land certificate so that is why the poor people didn't get the money. Those people who need to get, they

didn't get now. Those people who have land, everything they are getting, so it was not fair. Everybody should get I fairly. It should be fair.

07:40 R: so if you were the government how would give the money fairly to the people?

08:15 I: if it was distributed to all the people, those who have land they don't have to like that, they have to give the money to each and every family. So if I was there I would do this.

08:32 R: and how would you make sure that you gave money to all the people?

09:15 I: he has not like, he doesn't know how to explain, like how to manage it but if I was over there (in government) I would do it fairly and talk with other people also, who are representatives in the government.

09:32 R: like the different stakeholders?

09:33 T: yes.

09:37 R: and after the earthquake do you feel that you have access to political freedom, like you know about your rights?

09:54 I: no

09:56 R: do you feel that you can express yourself? Like your opinions to the government or to other people?

10:12 I: yes I can and he also try to say that, that I am not getting help. He was just explaining that.

10:24 R: and do you feel that you have access to some money or loan? Or like the opportunity to go back to Saudi arabia?

10:56 I: like the money he earned over there, all the money he invest here, to build a house here and the earthquake destroyed it. So, like he need new money to build it, that is the reason why I am not going back.

11:25 R: do you feel that you have access to social services like healthcare, free education, courses, information?

11:45 I: not in this area.

11:50 R: and do you trust more in the government after the earthquake?

12:15 I: like less, very less. I am trusting very less now. Before trusting the government but now I trust very less, they are not doing things until now. They say they are doing it, but they are not.

12:39 R: and do you feel that the government is open about their program, what they are going to do after the earthquake?

13:06 I: no, they are just saying, they are just open, saying now we are giving two million to you guys for making the house, they are just saying but not actually doing it.

13:23 R: do you think they should be more open about how they do the things?

13:56 I: the public should know everything of what the government is doing now, so it was better if the government told to the public: we are doing this, this, being open. Problem, plan future and what they are going to do, it is better.

14:25 R: immediately after the earthquake did you receive any, like when you came back from Saudi Arabia, did you receive any food or any materials for shelter, like did they help you with the shelter?

14:46 R: nothing? You just did it all yourself?

14:48 I: yes.

14:52 R: do you feel that you have the freedom to decide your own way of living?

15:08 I: my own way.

15:11 R: so you feel that it is okay?

15:12 I: it is okay, his living.

15:14 R: are you satisfied with your life right now?

15:20 I: yes

15:24 R: in general, do you feel that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

15:42 I: nothing changed, everything is the same.

15:47 R: except from house condition?

15:48 I: yeah.

15:54 R: are there some things that are more important to you now than before the earthquake?

16:23 I: shelter, I think it is most important?

16:27 R: and what about your new family?

16:36 I: yeah is also part.

16:43 R: do you think that the earthquake has given you any opportunities that you did not have before?

16:57 I: nothing

17:00 R: there is nothing positive about it?

17:07 I: nothing.

17:08 R: okay, would you have stayed in Saudi Arabia if the earthquake didn't happen?

17:19 I: mmh he would stay over there.

17:24 R: are you happy that you came home or would you like to stay?

17:33 I: not happy, because I was just earning money over there, I had good job over there, but now I have nothing, no money.

17:50 R: is there anything you would like to talk about that we have not talked about?

18:02 I: if you can help us to build the houses, you can raise our things, and if you can help

us. Because we need house here. You can talk to your government, who can talk to us. Any kinds of help.

18:34 R: okay I would like to thank him for helping me with answering the questions.

Aditi, Interview 01.09

- **Date:** 03.04.17
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 9
- **Survey no.:** 01.09
- **Reference:** Aditi
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** E, no. 3
- **Duration:** 25:14
- **Language:** Nepali
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:10 R: first of all I would like to thank you for participating, it is very kind of you. Danyabat.

00:19 R: can you tell me a little bit about yourself?

00:23 I: name X. 60 years old. I am staying in the house, caring for the small children, her children go to work because she can't.

01:00 R: the children of the family?

01:05 I: yeah son, daughter – granddaughter.

01:10 R: okay and how many people are there in the family?

01:28 I: 6 member: grand twins (2 boys), granddaughter, the father, the mother and she

01:55 R: and have you been to school at any time?

02:00 I: no

02:19 R: can you describe the experience under the earthquake to me?

02:32 I: was inside the house.

Talking because baby crying.

03:00 R: inside the house and what did you do?

03:03 I: I jumped out of the house

03:08 R: and what about the rest of the family?

03:43 I: all they are in house, there was no baby just she, her son and wife. They ran out, all of them.

04:01 R: which one is your house?

04:08 I: just there (pointing behind us)

04:09 R: and you live there now?

04:11 I: yes

04:11 R: did something happen to the house under the earthquake?

04:15 I: yeah house was destroyed, just living in transitional house.

04:19 R: okay so you live in, do you live in the transitional house then?

04:23 I: yes.

04:35 R: and will you build a new house?

04:28 I: yes. This is not for long-lasting for the people so have to make new house.

04:44 R: okay and have you started the planning or do you know when?

IP talking, R understands

05:00 R: it is difficult with food there?

05:05 T: yeah it is difficult to make food and no money to make house, so if somebody help them, if the government help them, it will be better.

05:14 R: have you received any kind of help?

05:58 I: yeah they helped: they received some food, some money from the people, same money as other. the government send money and also food.

06:15 R: have you received help from anyone else than the government?

06:49 I: no they don't receive any help from others, just that.

06:55 R: okay and did you help anyone?

07:00 I: no

07:04 R: and do you think that the help the people have got from the government is distributed fairly in the community?

07:39 I: yes it was, it was distributed to everyone, so it was good.

07:44 R: okay have you received all the money from the government? Also the 50.000?

07:49 I: yeah, they received all.

07:51 R: and are you satisfied with the help you have received so far?

- I Laughing

08:38 I: until now the help from the government it is okay, I am satisfied with it. They are planning to give more to us.

08:48 R: okay you know already that they will give more, the government?

08:50 I: yeah and they will give more also so we are satisfied with the help

08:58 R: okay, so if you were the government how would you help the people after the earthquake?

09:30 I: I don't know about political things, I am very, I am not habituated to this. So in case I have money, if I was in government, I will help them to build new houses.

09:56 R: the last year, what has been the most challenging or difficult for you?

I talking again before next question asked.

10:12 I: if I had money I like to give everyone, to help them so they will be happy.

10:22 R: so the most important would be like to help them to build a new house?

10:24 I: yeah

10:27 R: and do you know where you could get the money from? Like if, she said if I had money, I would help but do you know where you will get the money from?

10:40 I: she don't know these things

10:45 R: no problem. Okay so what has been the most challenging for you the last year?

11:26 I: it was difficult for food and living, shelter, because in the transitional house there are leakages everywhere, so it was quite difficult for us, like old man too.

11:40 R: and you were all living in the same room?

11:42 I: they are also live in the same room and they don't have too much agriculture land so they have to buy food also. So it was difficult

11:56 R: were the crops also destroyed in the earthquake?

12:32 I: yeas it was destroyed

12:35 R: so you had to start from scratch?

12:37 I: yes they started buying food in the shop, they also received some food from the government.

12:54 R: so after the earthquake do you feel that you have access to political freedom, such as you can tell your opinion to the government, you can find the help from the government that you need?

13:47 I: we are good now, we don't have to talk with them, we are getting the help, whatever they are distributing, we are getting it. So we haven't need to talk with them. We are happy.

14:10 R: so do you also feel that the economic facilities, such as the money you received, that they are enough from the government?

T yawning – talking about it.

15:12 I: that is enough money, the government has decided like 300.000 Rs, but that is not enough for us: to build the new house, we need more money for the house, so it would be better if the government give more money?

15:30 R: okay, so they have decided to give 300.000Rs to this family?

15:36 I: they will give, they haven't received all, they have given like 50.000 so they have to give 250.000 more and the government

also have a plan to give a loan interest. Loan interest, give like 400.000 in loan, if they have like land or something, they have to take the land to the bank and then the bank will give the money. This money is not enough for us, so we need more.

I talking and laughing

17:00 T: okay next question

17:01 R: okay, she just explained some more or what?

17:03 T: no, she was just telling like the money I invested in my hospital, I eat some money, so I don't have some money now, I need to make more make new house

17:15 R: do you know how much money you need?

17:34 I: 12 million, I think s, but I don't know.

17:43 R: and after the earthquake, did you have access to social opportunities such as social service, healthcare, hospital, free education for the children?

18:01 I: no free education, no healthcare.

18:06 R: so the family has to pay for the children when they go to school?

18:08 I: in school yeah and if they are going to hospital they have to pau.

18:13 R okay and there is no healthcare center close to here?

18:15 T: no, it is far – 30 min walk.

18:22 R: okay. And after the earthquake do you feel that you can trust more in the government than before?

18:38 I: little, I hope they are helping us, so I have to trust them, I don't have any other choice.

18:48 R: and are they open about their plans, budget, and so on?

I talking with a high voice, excited and laughing (not as an answer to R question)

19:47 T: okay, next question

19:49 R: she was just joking or what, about the house?

19:56 T: not house about the husband, okay next question

20:00 R: yes, so it was do you feel that the government is open about their plans? That they tell what they do?

20:13 I: I don't know about these things, I don't know where to find information, she is not using any technical materials: like news, newspaper, television, radio...

20:56 R: in general, do you feel that you have the freedom to choose your own way of living?

21:17 I: yes, it is free. I am satisfied with my life.

21:21 R: so if you could choose, you would choose the life you are living right now?

21:24 I: yeah

21:27 R: and in general, do you feel that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

21:45 I: one of the things is, that I am always afraid. I am always afraid with everything, family or house. I am started to be afraid, I am very scared.

22:04 R: okay and what do you do when you get afraid?

22:13 I: I go and hug my husband

Laughing

22:34 I: talking about houses, that the water is always leaking.

22:45 R: and are there some things that are more valuable to you now than before the earthquake?

23:02 I: house.

23:03 R: and her husband? (joking)

All laughing

23:29 R: do you think that the earthquake has given you any opportunities or anything positive in life?

23:46 I: there are no positive things. All are very bad.

23:49 R: event eh money you have received?

23:52 I: that money is not like everything.

23:59 R: and is there anything you would like to add or talk about, that we have not talked about?

24:16 I: she wants to take help from us, like materials for the house such as raw, cement, stone, anything. Help would be good for us. From VIN, they know VIN very well.

24:36 R: okay have they also given them toilet?

24:38 T: no VIN is working in Jitdipur community, so know all these things form there.

24:45 R: and will you build the new house, just where the shelter is?

24:55 I: here, yeah just same place, without the shelter.

25:08 R: okay, thank you very much for answering my questions, it was very kind of you

Kesari, Interview 02.09

- **Date:** 03.04.17
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 9
- **Survey no.:** 02.09
- **Reference:** Kesari
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** E, no. 4
- **Duration:** 21:04
- **Language:** Nepali
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:01 R: okay, thank you for participating, it is very kind of you. Danyabat. Can you tell me a little bit about yourself?

00:18 I: my name is X. 38 years old, housewife and some agriculture like animal feeding, chicken feeding.

0:45 R: and have you been to school?

00:47 I: no

00:48 R: and how many people live here with you?

00:58 I: 5, two sons, one daughter, one husband and wife.

01:05 R: okay and are your children in school?

01:09 I: they are in the school

01:13 R: okay. And can you describe your experience under the earthquake to me?

01:37 I: I was in the field. She was working in the field at the time. Husband, daughter and sons went to Kathmandu for visiting, because that day it was Saturday, so they were visiting family.

01:57 R: okay and what did you feel? Were you worried about your family because they were in Kathmandu and when did they come back?

02:16 I: yeah she was just on the field, just crying there, no one there – everyone over there. They came in the evening. When they came, then we made a small plastic tent and we started to live there.

02:45 R: so the house was destroyed?

02:46 I: yes. The house was not here, but over there.

02:55 R: I see, so you lived in plastic tent and then you build the shelter to live here?

03:05 I: yeah

03:07 R: okay, like how long time were you in the tent?

03:20 I: 2-3 months and after VIN is helping us to make this, the shelter.

03:28 R: okay. Do you have any plans of building a new house?

03:50 I: yeah they are planning, already started to make the house. Not the house, but the money the government give, they have started to make the plan over there, so they

are waiting for more money from the government. When they give, they will start bringing in the materials and the they make house.

04:10 R: do you know when? like do you have some timeframe for when it will be finished or?

04:38 I: no, it is not fixed when they are going to finish it.

04:41 R: they still don't know?

04:44 I: nah, they still don't know when it going to be started and when it going to be finished.

04:48 R: okay, depending on the money from the government?

04:51 I: yes.

04:52 R: and what has been the most challenging or difficult for you the last year?

05:12 I: yeah it was so difficult to live under these types of shelter because it is so disturbing of the children to study and then also when there is a big wind, so the rood falls out so, in this type of shelter, so last year it was difficult.

05:41 R: okay. Have you received any kind of help other than the money from the government?

06:17 I: they received some food from the people and it was enough for them for 2 months.

06:25 R: two months, and then they had start going back to the field?

06:26 I: in the field and they buy food too.

06:31 R: and like what people gave them the food? People around here, international people?

06:36 I: no the other people from Kathmandu, they came here and distributed to everyone

06:38 R: okay I understand, so the people who were not affected. And have you received the same kind of money from the government as the others?

06:55 I: yes

06:55 R: 300.000 too?

06:58 I: yeah they are getting already and they are starting to build houses. They are waiting for next instalment money.

07:07 R: okay. Have you helped anyone after the earthquake?

07:23 I: yeah the community people they came here to work with their field, or work here and she also go there and work with them.

07:37 R: okay nice. And the help you have received so far, are you satisfied with it?

07:54 I: yeah we are happy to get this type of help from the people, from the government, from the organisations like VIN, we are satisfied but we are also hoping for more help to build new houses. So the help, will be better for us.

08:19 R: okay and do you think that the help has been distributed fairly in the community?

08:32 I: yeah it was fair to everyone

08:38 R: and if you were the government, how would you help the affected people?

09:29 I if I was in government I would like, the most of the difficult things for the Nepalese people – for the affected people is making houses: so if I was there I would help them make new houses, like either they are small or big but help them by focusing on the house compared to other things. Like houses are most important for the people.

09:55 R: so not like only giving money but also helping

09:59 I: helping to build the houses. Like we heard in the news on the television and read in the newspaper, that the Nepalese government is getting a lot of help from the international donor, so we have more money and we should help the people who are really affected. Help to build houses, either big or small.

10:30 R: and after the earthquake do you feel that you can express your opinions about this? That you can talk to the government? Do you have access to political freedom?

10:50 I: no, like actually I don't know talking with them, there is no time, because everything is done by my husband he goes there so I don't know.

11:13 R: and would you like to get information of how to contact them?

11:23 I: yes if it is possible, nice to talk with them and ask for help.

11:41 R: and what about economic facilities? Have you also, like you received some money, what about loans? Job opportunities?

12:15: no, like we are thinking of taking a loan if we don't get enough money for building the house, then we have to take a loan but until now we haven't taken loan and we haven't got any job opportunities

12:31 R: and would you take a loan form the bank or how would you do it?

12:50 I: the government give some loan, like the are planning to give some loan.

13:00 R: and what about social opportunities, there is no free education for you children here or?

13:07 I: no

13:08 R: and what about healthcare? Have you received any medicine?

13:19 I: no they have to pay the money, when they go to the hospital. They don't have a local health post.

13:30 R: and does VIN have like women empowerment projects here or?

13:39 I: yes

13:43 R: but she doesn't want to join it or?

13:47 I: yeah she was also in one.

13:50 R: so there is a social opportunity like that, VIN doing something?

13:58 I: yeah she has got toilet from VIN, shelter from VIN. VIN is helping us, we have like women's cooperatives, so if we want we can take a loan from there to.

14:22 R: okay, so you can at least get some information about the things function from there?

14:25 I: yeah

14:37 I: and do you trust more in the government now than before the earthquake?

14:48 I: yeah I am really trustfull with the government, we hope the government will help us.

15:00 R: do you feel that they are open about... like can you see in the news what they are going to do after the earthquake?

15:19 I: yeah

15:30 R: and in general, do you feel that you have the freedom to choose your own way of living?

15:46 I: yeah I am satisfied with this, I live in my own way.

15:50 R: so if you could choose, you would choose this life?

16:00 I: yes I would choose.

16:05 R: and in general, do you feel that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

16:37 I: yeah, she is very changes from the earthquake: before they were staying in the houses, it was more safe there, they children had a free place to study, no disturbances from the others, here it is open and everything is in the same place and disturbance also from the rain, the sound. So totally change.

17:18 R: and can I ask what level of study her children are in?

17:30 I: one is grade 10, one grade 8 and one I grade 7.

17:36 R: and they have a lot of homework? So they have to study?

17:39 I: yeah

17:42 R: and how much do you pay? Like do you pay all of the? Is it a private school or public school?

17:51 T: it is like a community – public school, like government school

17:56 R: okay so you pay like 50 or 10 %, how much?

17:59 T: all the money, for every year

18:07 R: how much is it? How much does one year of school cost?

18:12 T: when they go up to upper level, all the money change.

18:19 R: okay, it gets more expensive for each year or less?

18:20 T: when they go up – more expensive.

18:29 R: are there some things that you value more now than before the earthquake?

18:45 I: nothing

18:53 R: okay and do you think that the earthquake has given you any opportunities or anything positive?

19:11 I: no any good things. Nothing is good. The kettle, destroyed kettle, toilet, house – everything.

19:28 R: do you think that in the future when you have built your house, that it might be better than before the earthquake?

19:47 I: hopefully

19:48 R: do you have like, do you also feel... like are you more scared of earthquakes now than before?

20:09 I: now sometimes, when it is grey or something I think earthquake is coming, so what to do – so I am thinking about it.

20:23 R: okay. Is there anything you would like to add or talk about, that we have not talked about?

20:37 I: I hope you guys help us, your organization help us to make the house, I would be thankful for that.

20:48 R: I would like to thank you for helping me by answering the questions, it is very kind of you.

Chandra, Interview 03.09

- **Date:** 03.04.17
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 9
- **Survey no.:** 03.09
- **Reference:** Chandra
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** E, no. 5
- **Duration:** 19:10
- **Language:** Nepali
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:02 R: okay, first of all I would like to thank you for participating, it is very kind of you. Can you tell me a little bit about yourself?

00:17 I: my name is X. 28 years old. I am housewife, take care of children, cooking, eat, washing clothes.

00:18 R: and what about your husband? Is he in the field or working?

00:52 I: he is working as a driver. There are 5 members in the family: two sons, one daughter, husband and wife.

01:12 R: and are the sons in school?

01:15 I: yes. One is in grade 4 and one is in grade 2.

01:23 R: okay and have you been to school?

01:26 I: no.

01:36 R: can you describe your experience under the earthquake to me?

02:12 I: she and her husband there are in Kathmandu for working, he is driving and she is also going to work there and then the children are here, and they didn't find them until the evening, so they were very scared about. The children went to go playing with

some friends and she didn't know they went there, so very afraid about that. Later they found them. They are not staying here when the earthquake happened, they were staying in Kathmandu, and her husband tried to find her and she was trying to find the children, so everyone is like "running around" no coverage, no network, everything died.

03:47 R: how did it feel like? Were you very scared or?

03:49 I: very scared, just crying and looking for the children, later they come back to the house and the husband also.

04:02 R: and what were you doing in Kathmandu

04:05 T: they just stayed there. She and husband drive there, she work there – labor work.

04:18 R: and after the earthquake did you live in a shelter or what?...

04:23 T: yeah they are living in shelter, same like IP 02.09

04:28 R: so your house was destroyed?

04:33 I: yes. Next to this shelter.

04:40 R: and do you have any plans of building a new house?

04:42 I: yeah they just received the money and they are bringing some materials already: the roof, and some iron raws, they already built, they have plan.

04:52 R: so you know when it will be finished?

04:58 I: no, I don't know about that. When we have money, we will finish, we need more money. They haven't brought all the materials now. There is only one in the family who work, for his money we have to survive, the children studying – have to pay the school, TV...

05:40 R: and what has been the most difficult for you since the earthquake? Like the most challenging?

06:20 I: most difficult is living, for the small children, for us, in the shelter it is difficult.

06:24 R: do you have a toilet?

06:31 I: no. cook, sleep and stay in the same room, everything in the same room.

06:44 R: and beside the money from the government have you received any other help?

07:11 I: just some food from the people and then also transitional shelter from organization, just that.

07:24 R: and have you helped anyone around here?

07:35 I: no, only the family like their relatives' relatives, they go there help with shelter.

08:00 R: and do you think that the help from the government has been distributed fairly in the community?

08:15 I: it was fair

08:18 R: and are you satisfied with the help you have received?

08:39 I: yeah we are satisfied until now with the help from the people, the government, some organisations but we need more help, the help is not enough because we are planning to build houses and houses cost most money. Any kind of help.

09:05 R: and if you were the government, how would help the affected people?

- Laughing

09:26 I: actually I don't know, what to say. If I was in government I would give them money, to the people – those who are very weak and poor.

09:41 R: okay but you don't know how? Like how the political system functions?

09:45 I: no

09:47 R: have you been offered, like we were talking about before there are some women groups, have you been offered to participate?

09:56 I: no.

09:57 R: would you like to get some information about politics and how it works?

10:13 I: no I don't want, no interest.

10:18 R: ehm so after the earthquake do you feel that you have access to, like telling your opinions to the government if you wanted to?

10:56 I: if I want to say something, I can.

11:04 R: and do you have access to some loans or other economic facilities after the earthquake?

11:34 I: no it is difficult, difficult to find loan, because local people don't believe they will pay it back again, so it is difficult to take loan from the people around here.

11:50 R: and from the banks?

11:51 I: from the bank we have to show them proper papers.

12:03 R: so you were not offered to be a part of a women group and you don't have free education, what about health have you received any information about health?

12:24 I: no.

12:30 R: and you feel that you can trust more in the government now than before?

12:53 I: maybe, maybe not.

12:56 R: just a question, when you were giving birth did you have to pay the hospital?

13:10 I: she just gave birth in the house.

13:18 R: and do you feel that you have the freedom to choose your own way of living?

14:03 I: yes, I am just living my life in my own way but sometimes I, my father in law, the property belongs to him, so sometimes he say: leave my property and go away, he I getting angry and saying that, but otherwise everything is good.

14:25 R: yes okay, so you have like a few quarrels with him?

14:26 I: yeah sometimes, so need to make a house

14:43 R: on the property that belongs to the father in law?

14:46 I: yes.

14:55 R: and in general, do you feel that your life has changed a lot since the earthquake?

15:10 I: nothing changed, it is the same.

15:13 R: except from living in shelter maybe? But otherwise like normal day life is the same?

15:35 I: yes.

15:42 R: are there some things that are more important to you now than before the earthquake

15:59 I: important is family – when thought they were lost (in earthquake) realized they are important.

16:08 R: just wondering, like we were talking a little bit about... would you like to get more... no sorry. So do you feel that the earthquake has given you any opportunities?

16:59 I: one of the good things is like before we were living in Kathmandu, there are no relatives there, but now we are living with our relatives. So it was the good thing

17:14 R: but before the earthquake happened you lived in Kathmandu but you also lived here or?

17:22 I: they are living with the far in law but now they will separate.

17:34 R: and you moved here because of the earthquake?

17:35 I: yes

17:38 R: okay is there anything you would like to add or talk about?

17:50 I: nothing.

17:57 R: no problem. If she had the opportunity would she like to be a part of a women group?

18:05 I: yes I would like to, but for creating the groups they need 5 member, and she didn't get any members because everybody is already involved. They need more 5 people, but there is no one.

18:34 R: and she cannot join one of the other groups?

18:36 T: maybe she can but I don't know.

18:50 I: if we get help very fast and start to make house very soon, it will be better for us. so no quarrel with family.

19:05 R: I understand, thank you very much
for participating it is very kind of you.

Danyabat.

Appendix 9: Focus group transcriptions

Focus Group1 Interview 01.10

- **Date:** 28.03.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 2.
- **Survey no.:** 01.10
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** A, no 1.
- **Duration:** 35:21
- **I:** interviewees
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:08 R: good, I will start. I will just say welcome and thank you to all of you for participating today, it is very kind of you. Danyabat. Today we will talk about the 2015 earthquake and I would like to talk about the following recovery process to the earthquake.

T translating – explaining.

01:04 R: can you tell me how the earthquake has affected your community?

01:26 I: each and every house was like destroyed over here. All the family and then the road was broken, it was like cracked, it was like many many wholes. All the area is totally affected

01:43 R: okay the whole community?

01:44 T: yeah

01:46 R: so everybody, all here lost their house?

01:53 I: yes

01:54 R: okay so you are all living in a transitional shelter now?

02:01 I: yes (people laughing)

02:13 R: what has been the most

challenging or difficult to you after the earthquake?

02:37 I: the most difficult thing is for living.

02:40 R: so living in the shelter now?

02:41 I: shelter yeah

02:49 R: what recovery efforts have been done so far? So, like, so how has the government helped this community?

03:29 I: in the period of earthquake the government helped just a bit: for living, for shelter, for food, everything they are helping but now: nothing.

03:39 R: okay and just how long time after the earthquake did they help?

03:59 I: 2,5 month

04:03 R: and since then none of them have received any help?

04:05 I: not any help, they received like 50.000 now, just that

04:08 R: everybody?

04:11 I: yes

04:12 R: to like build a new house?

04:14 I: to build a new house
- group talking/laughing

04:57 I: they say like some of the people doesn't get because when the people form government when they are coming here to write the name, the name was like mistake, like if they have to write like Christel, they write Christeel, name was like, and name from citizenship and name from there is like totally different – that is why there was some problem and they didn't get the money.

05:22 R: okay, so they are applying again to get a new?

05:23 I: yes

05:25 R: so it was the mistake of the government?

05:29 I: yeah

05:33 R: and what parts of the recovery efforts so far, do you think are well done? Like the people here, what do they think has been done, like, in a good way from the government? What has the government done that is good?

06:25 I: first the government come here and see the problems and then give like job opportunity to the victim peoples. And then also some money

06:41 R: okay so the helped some of the really affected people?

06:42 I: yeah

06:43 R: what kind of jobs?

06:57 I: like the people, those who have like any skill, if you have skill of construction then in construction job.

07:08 R: okay and have the people here got a job offer since the earthquake?

07:22 I: we just doing agriculture here, just that. For the agriculture also, they are giving like some of the seeds, good seeds for doing agriculture. And came here, tell them: these seeds is good, and give them seeds. And in that time the people had no money for the seeds, so the government, those who have like big land, doing agriculture so when they go there, they provided seeds to everybody.

08:15 T: but they didn't receive any – this type of help, but in other part I know the people are getting. In my area also the people are getting. Those who are involved in agriculture they received seeds from the government

08:32 R: okay so here they just received the money after 2,5 months?

08:36 T: yes

08:45 R: so what part of the recovery would they like to improve?

09:15 I: the government should give like, people job opportunity to everyone, those who are, have kids and also good shelter.

09:29: like the transitional shelter?

09:32 I: no not like transitional but a good house, help them to build a good house

09:44 R: and how, so if you were the government, how would help the affected people?

10:46 I: training me like, first visit the place, help the most affected place from the earthquake, so finalize that place first and finalise what kind of help they need first: in the families, what they need first, like we should, like after earthquake: if they need shelter, food... so finalise the things and after that what is the most important things for making the houses, helping them to give money, bring the materials and don't bring

money just give them the materials and help them ourselves.

11:31 R: okay so keep following the affected people? Even like 2 years after?

11:36 I: yes

11:47 R: do others agree or do they have other ideas? (asking because above answer was mainly given by one person)

- laughing

12:16 I: they all agree with him.

12:30 I: he was telling me like: I think the transitional houses will not last for one year more, because all is not good now, like leaking inside, I think a new transitional house. If they want to make houses, they don't have enough money so they have, the money they invested in the transitional house and they don't have money for a real house, so they are like not good.

13:04 R: are any of them planning of building a new house now?

13:15 I: they are thinking we have to make the houses, but not now. They don't have enough money to build the houses.

13:34 R: okay. Would you like to be a part of the recovery planning? That the plans the government has made, would you like to have a voice in those plans?

14:21 I: the money of the government who they are giving now is not enough so they have to give more money and design from the government, the money is gone over there. Like, for the foundations all the money goes there, the design the money is going there. The material, the money is not enough so we need to...

14:47 R: so they don't get the design for free?

14:50 I: design is free but the house – the foundation there is different design, so they

have to do pillars, wall, all the money goes there – under the ground. So what to do with the rest?

15:12 R: okay I understand.

- talking

15:36 R: do you feel that you are being listened to when you tell something to the government? Are they listening to your problems?

16:08: they don't listen.

16:11 R: okay, when was the last time the government was here?

16:38 I: during the time of the earthquake they came here but after that no.

16:44 R: so they have not been here for like 1,5 year?

16:48 I: no

- talking

17:13 R: what are they saying?

17:15 T: they are saying: the government not good. If we believe the government, they don't do anything, we have to ourselves.

17:28 R: and do you help each other around here in the community or do you just do your thing, like for your own family?

18:16 I: some people help, like for building, for the shelter, for the food. In the time of earthquake all the community people are staying together and in that time we help but after that all the people had to make their own shelter, so people are involving in their own house.

18:43 R: after the earthquake do you feel that you have access to political freedom? That you know your rights and can express your opinion?

19:08 I: no, nothing (china means no)

- all laughing

19:33 R: what are they saying?

19:41 R: okay, what about economic facilities such as getting money, loans from other people, jobs?

19:53 I: China (means no)

19:58 R: is it better now? Compared to before the earthquake? Is it the same as before?

20:15 I: the same, no change. People doesn't give money for the loan

20:21 R: only like the few money form the government?

20:23 I: yeah

20:26 R: and what about social opportunities such as that you receive any kind of health care?

20:51 I: yeah one time they received the medicine

20:55 R: but since then they have not received anything?

20:59 I: no

21:06 R: and how is the education in this area? Is if for free or they have to pay?

21:24 I: no free education. They are going to visit somewhere is it free, but for the education not.

- T talking on phone

21:55 R: but do the children here in this community go to school or they working in the field?

22:03 I: yes go to school.

- T talking on phone

22:57 R: after the earthquake, did you trust more in the government?

23:12 I: yeah no, after... people do not believe in ... (unclear)

23:18 R: okay, so it is the same?

23:20 I: yeah.

23:20 R: and do you feel that the government has been open about their plans, recovery plan?

23:50 I: they are open to the public, they are just telling, but don't do anything, but they are open.

23:56 R: so they (government) tell them (I)?

23:57 I: yeah like: now we are doing this, doing this but they don't do.

24:02 R: they don't like to do it? They do something else?

24:05 I: we will give you money recently, but it takes time.

24:11 R: so they give promises they can't hold?

24:13 I: yeah

24:26 R: when you think, not just about the earthquake, but in general: what are the biggest concerns in this community? Like what are the biggest issues or challenges in this community?

25:02 I: shelter

25:05 R: even though it doesn't have anything to do with the earthquake, just in general? So like having a proper house?

25:13 I: proper house

25:18 R: and what do you think can be done to, like ease this, like what can be done to remedy this?

25:30 T: solve? Who can we solve?

25:31 R: solve this problem yeah

25:48 I: to give some organisation, like VIN and government help and coordination and come here and like the family, some other organisation, the government if they have like coordination and give money or material for the house maybe it can help some.

26:08 R: if they come here and like facilitate, they will do the manpower and like build the house?

26:13 I: like of organisation will provide the material, the government should provide some manpower, family will provide some other things like coordination, the work will be better.

26:26 R: okay, so they don't think they can solve just them, they need some help from someone else?

26:30 I: yes

26:39 R: in general, just in genera: what do you think that are some of the reasons for poverty, like low life standards here in this community?

27:08 I: It depends on like their economic source. Like, those who have good economic source, their life standard is good. Those who have good economic source, it (life standard) is normal. In general all the life standard of the people are like normal.

27:25 R: okay so they don't feel so poor here?

27:32 I: yeah doesn't feel poor

27:38 R: and the economic sources they get from crops?

27:43 I: crops and some other people have a job and some in labour, some are driving
- talking

28:15 R: okay, if you had access to unlimited funds, like unlimited money, all the money you would like, what kind of program would see developed here in this community?

28:56 I: if we have like more money, first we do the good transportation – good road and then good water resources and one good school and one health care center, like that.

29:14 R: so that is what they want?

29:16 I: yes

29:20 R: and do you think that the earthquake has given you anything positive? Any opportunities that you did not have before?

31:23 I: there is no any positive thing around here but heard in some places, what people get opportunity – go to the abroad, some people get free education, those who are really affected but not here.

31:42 R: and after the earthquake do you feel closer together as community? Like do you know each other better now?

31:55 I: not really, they already got opportunity to know the people before.

32:04 R: is there something you would like to add or talk about?

32:15 I: help us to build the houses, we are really poor people, so tell these things to your organisation and help us. I think it will be better for us, if they help in one think, like manpower, materials, anything as they can.

32:33 R: just some thing to start with?

32:34 I: yeah, it will be better for us, just like that

32:38 R: okay I understand. I have one more question actually: do you feel like in general, you are free to choose your own way of living?

32:57 I: yes

32:59 R: so you just need help for building the houses?

33:02 I: yes.

33:40 R: okay, I would just like to thank them for participating and ask them I can take a photo?

33:48 I: (laughing) yes

34:33 All: danyabat (thank you)

Focus group2 Interview 02.10

- **Date:** 28.03.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 3
- **Survery no.:** 02.10
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** A, no 2
- **Duration:** 33:49
- **I:** interviewees
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:01 R: welcome everybody and thank you for participating, it is very kind of you. My name is Christel and I am from Denmark and I will ask you a bit of questions.

- T translates

00:22 R: okay we will talk a little bit about the earthquake and the following recovery.

- T translates

00:42 R: can you tell me how the earthquake has affected your community?

01:07 I: yeah, destroyed house and food, clothes

01:12 R: did it (the earthquake) destroy all of the houses here?

01:20 I: yeah each and every

01:22 R: okay, so you live in a shelter now?

02:16 I: yeah

01:28 R: and do you have any plans of building a new house?

01:43 I: yeah they have plan but they don't have big money

01:51 R: okay and what has been the most difficult for you, since the last year?

02:19 I: yeah they have big problem, like, they build small house like cottage but there is a lack of manproblem, like tent – living in tent. This time...

03:00 R: okay wait so it is very difficult to live in the shelter? The most difficult for them?

03:04 T: yeah

03:09 R: what recovery efforts have there been so far?

03:45 I: they build, they now they are living in shelter

03:56 R: but what has been done to help them? After the earthquake, what has been done to help them? The affected people? Like what help?

04:14 I: yeah boardman give them tent but government do not give everyone tent and they buy themselves

04:27 R: okay so the government gave some tents after the earthquake yes?

04:30 T: yeah

04:31 R: have you received other kind of help? Like food, medicine, money...

04:54 I: yeah they gave them food but didn't give like materials. Some people got medicine but some people did not get medicine in this community.

05:35 R: and when did this help, when did you receive this help? Was it after like, 2 months after the earthquake? Do you still get help now years after?

05:53 I: yeah we have received the help after earthquake?

05:56 R: okay so just immediately after?

05:58 T: mmh (confirming)

05:59 R: okay so the government is not helping you anymore?

06:17 I: only a little first they give 7000 and 10.000 and big money 50.00 only.

06:26 R: to build the house?

06:29 I: yeah

06:31 R: okay and what aspects of the help that you have received do you think are well done? Like what is good and what is bad?

06:47 I: none

06:49 R: there is nothing good about what they have received? Good help?

06:53 I: yeah (nothing good)

07:01 R: okay so what do you think could be better? About the help they have received so far, what could be better?

- T does not understand

07:23 R: like how could the government improve the help?

07:30 I: the government build house for each and everyone, the thing is people have lost.

07:36 R: then it is better? If they (government) build the house?

07:39 I: yeah

07:40 R: okay, so if you were the government how would you help the affected people?

08:11 I: our government say like one thing and do nothing.

08:52 I: they don't know

08:53 R: they don't know how they will do it, like how they will help the people?

08:56 T: yeah

08:59 R: so like if you could choose, like what kind of help would you like to get? What kind of help would you like to get?

09:30 I: the government give 60-70.000 money for building a new house and they also help a little bit money for build a new house

09:45 R: so they would like more money for building houses?

09:46 T: yeah, that is the problem in Nepal: money (laughing)

- I talking

10:35 T: they are saying – we are feeling bad – poor, we don't not like this kind of house. Poor do not have good house so government give me a lot of money to build a new house that is the problem. Unclear.

10:58 R: so there is like a big difference in houses and the government just gave more money to that house than this?

11:05 I: no no, personal property. His father give ham.

11:20 R: and would you like to be a part of the recovery planning? Like the plan of the government of how to, over the earthquake?

11:33 R: again? Yeah okay, would you like to be a part of the recovery planning so part of the plans the government make for how to get back to normal after the earthquake?

12:17 I: no they do not, no good talks about doing this. Unclear. They don't nothing in every sector

12:35 R: in the government?

12:36 T: yeah

12:38 R: would you like to decide what is to be done? Like would you like to. Like the government makes a plan for the people, would you like to have a part in that plan? To decide?

13:31 I: yeah they do, they want

13:34 R: and do feel that when you say something the government listens to you?

13:47 I: no

14:09 I: they need money for personal property.

14:25 I: political so poor.

14:32 R: okay, so do you feel that after the earthquake; do you have access to political freedom? That you can express your opinions, you know about your rights and so on?

15:18 I: yeah they are listening but they do not do. They come here and see each and every problem but they don't do anything, only listening. They say: everything yeah we do, but they do not. They don't actually do it.

16:33 I: some people got money but some people do not got the money.

16:36 R: okay, so do you feel that the, so you don't feel that it has been fairly distributed? The money?

16:47 I: no

16:49 R: do you know why some people get the money and some people don't get the money?

17:09 I: they don't know but they are waiting for the money

17:13 R: okay they are still waiting. I see. And after the earthquake do you feel that you have access to economic facilities such as money, loans, job opportunities?

17:41 I: no. they think they always poor, they think that they... what... They think that all the people do not believe in to get the money.

18:05 R: and what about social opportunities such as have you received, some of you received a little bit of medicine? No sorry. In this area is there free education?

18:32 I: no, there is no free education here.

18:41 R: and would you like that you change?

18:48 I: yeah, when in this area there are in school, 4-5 months they free educated children but after 4-5 month they (the school) receive the money.

19:16 R: okay and would like all education to be free? Or just like some levels to be free?

19:23 I: all level

19:26 R: and do you feel, after the earthquake that you can trust more in the government than before?

20:01 I: yeah they do little by little. One day they definitely help us, one day or later

20:09 R: so they trust them a little bit more now?

20:11 I: yeah

20:11 R: okay and do you feel that the government is open about their plans? Do they tell what they are doing and? If the government tell to the people here about their plans?

20:36 I: no

20:39 R: no, so you don't know about budget or what they are gonna do and so on?

20:47 I: no

21:03 R: and we think beyond the earthquake, so just in general, what are the biggest problems or concerns in this community?

21:21 I: the house. Shelter, living, is the big problem here.

21:33 R: and how would you like to solve this problem?

21:49 I: the government help them a little and then they will build a new house.

21:57 R: okay, so you would like to get help from the government before you can start solving the problem.

- I talking

22:15 I: if any organisation help him or government, yeah, they will build a new house. Like a nice house with toilet.

22:26 R: that was after the earthquake right? (pointing at toilet)

22:27 T: yeah

22:29 R: and what do you think are some of the reasons for why there is like lower life standards here in the community? What are the reasons for why you don't have so much money here? What do you think are the reasons?

23:09 I: they don't have any answer, they don't know.

23:15 R: okay, if you had access to like all the money you wanted; what kind of project would you like to develop in this community?

23:43 I: they don't know.

23:43 R: no? what if like you could choose; what would you like to have in your community?

24:39 I: first for each and everyone. Uncelar. Each and every commit to this community and they are talking about transportation,

education and road. They started to, each and everyone should help.

25:07 R: so that everybody helps each other here. After the earthquake did you help each other here?

25:26 I: yeah they help each other

25:28 R: and how did they help each other?

25:35 I: they go to build a new house for the people and he also go with him and they build a new house for him and then they go to him.

25:50 R: okay, so they just build one house and then they go together and build the next house?

25:53 T: each and everyone yeah.

25:57 R: and are you satisfied with your life standards right now, after the earthquake?

26:21 I: this is a poor living standard, this not life like this.

26:29 R: do you feel that you have the freedom to choose your own way of living?

24:49 I: yeah they do

26:52 R: okay so they feel free but they are not satisfied with their life?

26:55 I: yeah

27:08 R: and do you think that there are any positive things after the earthquake?

- laughing

27:42 I: some things are good, some things are bad.

27:49 R: okay, what is good and what is bad?

27:55 I: unclear. And after the earthquake some people got – after the earthquake they

live in same place, eating same thing and bad thing is destroyed house.

28:14 R: so they feel closer together?

28:16 I: yeah and family that is the good thing and the bad things is destroyed house, destroyed animals, destroyed food, food material, money, everything.

28:30 R: but socially they feel closer together?

28:33 I: yeah

28:39 T: do you like our political system?

28:40 R: it is crazy

28:44 T: yeah really bad

28:51 R: what are they talking about?

28:53 T: they are talking about water resources.

28:55 R: water resources? Are they bad here?

29:07 T: they are talking about earthquake did it and earthquake time.

29:10 R: earthquake what?

29:12 T: earthquake time

29:13 R: but what how bad it was or what?

29:16 T: yeah in this day unclear. They are talking about... in this time they do not sleep, living easily because they are very scared.

29:48 R: okay but being together was helping them? They don't now feel so scared anymore?

29:53 I: yeah and yeah

30:07 I: here there is no water

30:13 R: why?

30:14 I: because earthquake damaged the water pipe and do not come water in tap, that is the biggest problem in earthquake.

30:30 R: and they still don't have any water now?

30:31 I: yeah, yeah they have now.

- I talking

31:40 R: who helped them building the water pipe again?

31:53 I: they

31:54 R: they build themselves, all together?

31:56 I: yeah

32:00 R: okay I am done with my questions but if they have something they want to add or talk about we can do that.

32:25 I: you help them, you go to your project and say to him: help them to build the houses.

32:47 R: okay I will try. Okay.

33:03 R: okay, anything else?

33:03 T: no

33:04 R: okay, danyabat. Than you very much for participating, it is very kind of you.

- talking about group photo for VIN.

Appendix 10: Political leader transcriptions

Political leader1 interview 01.11

- **Date:** 05.04.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 1
- **Survey no.:** 01.11
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** A, no 3
- **Duration:** 01:03:05
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:06 R: Namaste. Okay so he is one of the leaders in the Maoist group?

00:12 T: yes

00:15 R: and are you responsible for one specific area or a you just around?

00:53 I: like in most of the places, the region, he all of them are main like this area, like there are 9 wards and he look 1 ward mostly. When there are like programme or different kinds... he just look over there. Especially he focused to ward 1, like whole, not Okharpauwa ward 1, there is Nuwakot. Nuwakot is one of the district, so the whole district.

01:30 R: okay, so Okharpauwa and other places too. Okay I understand

01:37 R: and can you tell me how the local VDC has been involved in the affected people's recovery process?

03:13 I: after the earthquake the government have make one of the plan, like to recover plan, like making the houses to the earthquake victim people. In this, Okharpauwa, in this ward – like VDC, like 1700 people were registered to make the houses, the government gave the money for making, for like first instalment money to everyone.

03:43 R: so 17.000 people?

03:45 T: 1700 people, like one house there are 1700 house, like household got first instalment money but when they get money in the start houses, only when he get the research; only 150 houses are started to build. So the government has made the plan to make the houses to everyone but from the VDC they didn't involve proper. Most of the people, now it is the time to get the second instalment of money, but due to other people – people didn't get the instalment until now because they haven't started the houses until now. So when they start it, all the family start the houses and other people also get the second instalment.

04:43 R: okay so do you know like why they didn't start building the houses?

05:49 I: there are two reason why they didn't started. One is like lack of labour, skill labour. We have an idea of how to make earthquake resistant houses many places people are starting the houses so it is difficult to find the skill labour.

06:06 R: like people who know how to build the house?

06:09 I: yes like earthquake resistant houses. Second is money. We don't have enough money. The government only give like 50.000

now and that money is not enough to make the houses. You have to make a plan and start to do the pillar and everything, so that money is not enough and that is why they didn't start yet.

06:34 R: and how did you decide on the amount of money that you were giving to the people? Like the 50.000? Why did you decide it was 50.000 and not 100.000 or 30.000?

06:47 I: no this was decision made by the higher level, national level, the government who are prime minister.

07:02 R: okay, so this is also what I have been wondering because I only found the national framework like post recovery framework and are you following this framework? You said you had a plan, are you following your own plan or? Are they following a national plan or more like a local government plan?

07:31 I: they are following national plans

07:34 R: the national plans, okay. And so, that, so...

- I begins talking

08:06 I: yeah the following like government plans, the government has designed 17 kinds of house designs, like temporarily or permanent, cemented floor, tin floor, they are like this type of houses – no matter, but the government have designed how to make it. So people are following according to the government.

08:29 R: okay, because I found like in the national plan they have like 5 objectives like goals, they want to do. Like goals they want to do. They want to give houses to the people but also like second to include the community, make community-based organisations and include the community in the decisions and everything.

09:03 T: no the decision is only made from the...

09:06 R: the national government, yes. But in the national government policy it says that they want to include the people so are they including the people?

10:13 I: the government had distributed like technical engineer, like designing engineer, to each and every part of the earthquake victim areas. In these areas there also like 5 people, who look after like all of the designing from the government and then they started to build the houses, coming here and give the solution and they also see like how much money they have. They ask the people how much money they have listed, like their estimated budget. Some people they have listed 50 or 30.000, it depends on their economic level. So they (engineers) came here and see how much money they have and they started designing houses.

11:09 R: for the actual household?

11:13 I: yeah like the design, there are 17 design, but all of the design is different and most of the design are expensive houses, so they are look after here and come here, see what they are doing,

11:39 I: there are 17 design of houses, so they should ask the designer or engineer first; they want to build this design and then the designer will (unclear), only if the people want to make themselves it doesn't make sense...

12:01 R: they don't make it earthquake resistant?

12:03 I: the government doesn't give them money.

12:05 R: okay, so the people have to choose one of the designs to get the money?

12:09 I: yes and they are saying here and I like this type of design and the engineer came here and they start make it. For that they don't have to pay, so it was free.

12:24 R: okay, so that is like the part of the house like recovery but at least in the national plan is says that they really want to help the really poor and affected people by improving, like including them in the process, the really poor people, by using local organisations. Does he think that is happening or are they mainly focusing on the house situation?

13:52 I: for like really really victim people, they need like two things: one is house and the house totally government cant build for each and every public so the government is only helping the people, like encourage the people to make it. They are just encouraging now, they can't build the whole, they (government) can't invest all the money in houses. One is this thing and another is like, the people who are really affected, the government should provide them good job and good job opportunity. That is why can get some money and start to build their own house.

14:42 R: so have they offered job opportunities?

15:41 I: they cant do themselves, like the really victim, they are poor and they are like afraid to talk with the leader or something. So each and every place they have like a member, like community, like party community, so when he also explains, he go to other community for seeing their process – the people are asking him; give me a job. They have different parties so, people who are in those parties they tell to their parties like: we need jobs, you can do it?, you can tell to other –your higher level? They (community members) say to him, him say to other people like higher level and higher level say to other people so it was a like a long process.

16:41 R: but do you feel people have been offered the jobs yet or is it still in the process?

16:47 I: they are just offering now, but they didn't get it

16:50 R: the people didn't get it?

16:52 I: the people didn't get until now.

16:54 R: okay they are still in the process of offering it? Okay. And what kind of jobs would that be?

17:33 I: people who have like any kind of skill. Like different people have different kinds of skills so give them to the job of any kinds of work, nature unclear, like most of the young people have only started in university and they didn't get an job, so look after those kind of people, who have like are qualified.

18:02 R: okay so try to give them the job within their education?

18:10 I: their qualification

18:11 R: okay and how did you, like you said the national government is deciding on the money, like how much money they should get, like the 50.000 that was from the government, the 50.00 right?

18:25 T: I don't understand.

18:26 R: no, okay. I will try again. So the money that the people got so far, like the national government decided that right?

18:48 I: it was decided by the government

18:50 R: okay yes, so have do they decide what the people should receive and what they should not receive?

20:55 I: the government is like, described 3 categories: 1 is like all destroyed (the house) who lost everything. Second is like those who

are like cracked or something on the houses. Third is like not destroyed, like only small things. So the people who want to make houses, like building this type of building they can get almost like 21 LACKS, around 21 million. So 21 million, they have to get loan from the government but they have to show their properties to the bank. The government should not, they have properties, they have to show their properties.

22:16 I: these are one of the rules, but when the Nepal government has some dollar from the international donor can offer these type of money, like here is money to the people. Like they need people are now started to build these types of house, because it costs more. So when the Nepal government get some dollar they will start to do this but until now the government only plan to give like 6 LACS, 6 million. 3 million for free, 3 million for loan.

22:59 R: to the ones who have like a completely destroyed house?

23:01 I: yes.

23:03 R: and less money to the ones who have like cracked

23:06 I: less money, like 1.5 million to the ones who have just crack or repair

23:16 R: okay but this is just in the process, no one has been offered this yes? Like no family, household has been offered this kind of money? Like this loan?

23:29 I: no this are in process. They don't get like total, like free money now. They have to get like 3 LAC first from the government site and after they can ask for loan.

23:40 R: they can ask the people if they want to take the loan?

23:43 I: yes

23:45 R: okay and do you think that the people will accept the loan?

23:59 I: there is no any choice. They have to take it.

24:05 R: even like the poor people who don't have a job or something who cant pay it back? They will offer it everyone?

24:11 I: no, like they will offer, when they show their property or something, and then the government will give the money, otherwise all the people they don't get money – the have to show something.

24:22 R: so if the people don't have...

- I talking

24:56 I: if the Nepal government can't receive the donor money from the international, they are 14 district in Nepal, who are really affected, so when they are done finding donor and take loan, the people from current district they can't offer to make the houses they have to live in the shelters.

25:21 R: yes living in shelters, like they have done so far. But you already received a lot of money from the international donors?

26:09 I: the money, they received like, most of the money they invested in people labour, like engineer who came here and other designer and Nepal government people who work for the government. Most of the countries made promise to Nepal, they will give the donor money again.

26:34 R: yes like the U.S and China

- I talking

26:52 I: the designer get like around a 1000 Rupees in one month. so they are, in one ward, they are like 5 people so like 250.000. All the money was invested like this.

27:14 R: okay, for more like, yes, experts. Okay and this idea with the loan that you want to give to the people, do you have a timeframe for when you can start offer it to the people?

28:20 I: first like, the money we are receiving from the government, like free money, they have to receive that money after that they will start to give money.

28:28 R: yeah but he doesn't know when they will start receiving the money?

28:31 I: it depends on people like, if they start to build house asap, like all the people are starting to bring things, like the material, will give the second instalment. The second instalment money they also use for the houses. Then they will get third instalment and after that they will give the money.

28:48 R: okay so it actually depends on the national government and on the local people. So we were talking about that they have to show some property to get the money, but if people don't have any property they cant get any money?

29:50 I: if 5 people give the signature, like local people, for example: I don't have any properties I am like poor people, I just get 3 million first, I take it all, 3 million. And after that If I need more money...

30:14 R: but you cannot get the money if you don't have a property?

30:15 I: no that is right. Ehm 5 people around the community, 5 people say: give them to me money, they sign a paper and the government give the money but only they don't have to pay for that, just return it

30:35 R: so it is not a loan? It is like "free money"

30:36 I: it is like "free money" but 5 people have to be involved. Like each and every people get this money. Like 6 million is like for free for five people

30:51 R: so they all have to show some sort of guarantee that they all want to do it?

30:54 I: yeah and the 3 million they don't have to give back.

31:02 R: okay so like 5 people will get 3 million for free and then 3 million for a loan

31:07 T: yes.

31:12 I: like the people, all the people get 6 million. 3 first for like household people, like who are really victim, 3 million first and after that they will receive 3 million

31:36 R: but they are like 5 people sharing or?

31:37 I: not sharing. Each and every people get it but they are a group, like five people, they have a group committee.

31:45 R: okay they have to be five people if they don't have a property?

31:48 I: anybody, those who have property also. For the loan they have to show the moan, but that is not loan.

31:57 R: okay, I think I understand. So that is how they want to help the really affected... but is there like any, what are they are signing is it just that they want the money or is it just a sort of contract or what is it?

32:09 I: it is just like a sort of contract. They don't have to give back the money.

32:14 R: okay so they don't have to do anything? Or show anything except for sign?

32:16 I: for when they start, the 3 million first, I think they have some question or

something: he will make a house or not? Five people say he will make it and then you can give to them, it is like a contract, I think.

32:30 R: okay so it is like a guarantee that they actually build the house?

32:32 T: yea actually doing the houses.

32:35 R: okay I understand.

32:42 R: can you explain to me, how you as a local government, try to listen to peoples' needs and their wishes? Like what they want?

33:53 I: when they are went to visit like the teashop or other places, when they are going to there later they are going to the shop, many people are gathering there. They say: you have to, you are in this party, you have to do this things to the family – for us. These things. So when they are saying to them and they are trying to say to the local government.

34:20 R: okay so they go, like when they go around visiting people...

34:24 I: they would say to them: you do this, you have to do this for us. And they will go to the government and tell that.

34:33 R: okay and how often do they go there? To the teashops?

34:37 I: everyday.

34:40 R: and how is the process? Like you try to tell the government and does the government do anything about it?

34:48 I: they just go to the local government like VDC and then they will have a meeting with the VDC, like each and every month they have a meeting.

35:28 I: they have like meeting, like people – the responsible people of the VDC and they also see what types or work and what types of

things are good. Like sometimes people want road, good road or something and they are saying: okay we are doing this to this prices and in the meeting they are discussing the things and this is (unclear)

35:53 R: okay they start to request from the national government?

35:58 I: the budget from the national government

36:01 R: okay so it is like a decision process that they have a meeting every month and all different political parties are part of the meeting and they decide on something and then they go on...

36:13 I: people are from different parts. From their own parts their bring and they decide in their group: now we are doing this thing at this price, so this first and then they start to work. So later it will follow or work will be done.

36:32 R: okay, what is usually the time frame for this decision process?

38:39 I: there is like timeframe for the project for, for the work, it took like minimum 6 months because each and every year the government has this kinds of budget, they are (unclear) the budget. So for the budgeting and also listed this work to their budget and when they have their budget ready they receive (meaning give) the money to the VDC – they start to do the work.

39:07 R: so usually like 6 months?

39:08 I: like 6 months. This has gone fast, if they want to make something new, like for example if they want to build a road or a school or something, they do the meeting first and then they will do the decision and then the decision is okay and they will give to the government. But for the money for it takes at least 6 months.

- I talking

39:55 I: if there is like risky things: when they are fighting in the villages, or landslides, like earthquake happen, these types of things – the government will react now, faster.

- phone ringing

(R and T talking about pictures that the VIN requests)

41:00 R: ehm so also in this national plan for recovery they say: that they want to improve the health for the people, make more earthquake resistant schools, better education about earthquakes and do you think that you are doing this process now? Are you improving the health of the people and the educational level?

44:41 I: there is no any system of free education here. Like only few people got it and those who are really really affected, not like that.... Free education is given to disabled student, who don't have a leg, can't speak, don't have an arm... They are giving free education to them but there is no system for other people.

For the health also during earthquake time, the government helping for the people in that time but now they don't. So they say: maybe they will also work for the health and educational system.

45:28 R: okay but they have no plans of doing that right now?

45:30 I: no

45:33 R: no making, for example in the schools giving them classes about earthquakes and so on?

45:41 T: no

45:42 R: So they are mainly just focusing on the households and the house situation?

45:46 T: yeah

45:24 I: if the government provide teacher, from the government side, the student haven't paid for the school, they are free. Most of the schools are public but the people have to pay the money for that: for the salary for the teacher, uniforms, books – the student have to pay for that. If the teaches are provided from the government side, they are free and then they only have to pay like own expenses.

47:07 R: okay, good, I understand. And has the government, like the fact that you are focusing on the house situation, is that a wish from the national government or is it something that you chose as the local government to focus on?

48:05 I: most of the money are receiving for Nepal is from the international donor so the donor ask focusing to the Nepal you have involve it, like the recovery process for the houses, we have to be there! That is why the government is focusing there.

48:22 R: on the house situation and not like building schools, health centres or something?

48:28 I: yeah, they are building schools also. Like earthquake resistant schools.

48:35 I: before earthquake like, most of government.... Before the earthquake, the government already started to make earthquake resistant school. Many schools are done, that is why some of the schools of the other part – because nothing happened, they are already earthquake resistant.

49:00 R: okay and like are you working with some NGOs or other organisations to like, in the recovery process after the earthquake?

49:12 T: where in the VDC?

49:13 R: yeah if the VDC is working with some?

49:22 I: yeah there are other organisations.

49:28 R: are they also a part of the decision process or is it only the political parties?

50:09 I: in some part they are also involved in the decision making

50:13 R: okay

50:17 I: if the work is related to the community, like development in community, they are also a part. They are here to develop the community that is why they have to focus on them also.

50:30 R: so they would not be able to do the work without the organisations?

50:34 I: no

50:35 R: and we were talking about, a little bit before, people asking or telling wishes, requests or needs to him, what are the most common requests from the people?

51:36 I: after the earthquake most of the people are telling him: they want houses, like money and help. But before everything: like schools, road and for the agriculture like seeds and water – water for agriculture and water for drinking water.

52:02 R: okay good, so now I just have a few more questions. Just thinking of the recovery process in general, what aspects of the recovery efforts are well done so far?

53:04 I: most important is like shelter, the most affected and...

53:11 R: mmh okay but what do you done the best? Like what job have you done best right now, since the earthquake?

54:21 I: one of the good things, the money send form the government encourage the people to make the houses and the government also give them that money, people have to make the houses because they don't have any twice, they have to make houses at any cost.

Another is like agriculture: for the agriculture the earthquake destroyed every water resource for the agriculture, so the government also bring, making, bring the water for the agriculture. For the crops, these are the things.

55:04 R: and what would you improve? If you think that something should be improved, what would that be?

56:44 I: what of the improving things of the local or national government is political leader. Due to the political leader each and every thing is like not good, things they are not able to do. Like one of the leaders of one of the political parties want to do one work but another party doesn't want to do that. Disagree. So due to that they have a conflict between the parties so that is why it takes a long for them to decide and develop the country as soon as possible. In this area he wants to do one thing for the area but other parties come here and say: no it is not good, we have to do it like this. He disagrees with it.

57:38 R: okay and how many parties are there in the local government now?

57:46 I: 4 parties

57:47 R: and it might change for election?

57:53 T: don't know

57:58 R: okay. If you were to describe a successful disaster recovery how would you describe it?

59:10 I: when it is successful is like proper shelter for each and every household member, they have like a good house and good

education to their children, good transportation. If they have these types of things in the community, we will feel very happy and proud of the people and it will be good for us because we are doing something for the community.

59:48 R: okay, I understand. Is there anything you would like to add or talk about?

01:00:55 I: in the organisation like VIN, they have many international people, like many international volunteer come here so if it was good the organisation provide teacher for our local schools, it would be better for students in the schools.

Thank you for asking this.

Another thing is during the earthquake time the school is totally destroyed, so the organisations provided like labour, materials and everything, helping them to build a learning centre like TLC. So it was very helpful to us in that moment so if the organisation can do they provide some teachers for us.

01:01:53 R: mainly like English teacher or?

01:01:55 I: English teacher because there is no choice here.

01:02:11 I: because in the school the earthquake affected students are involved there, so when the international people go there and teach them about the things, it is very helpful for them and the local people.

01:02:28 R: both for about the earthquake, and health, the WASH and...

01:02:34 I: if VIN can provide teachers for this community, community is really thankful.

01:02:44 R: so also like information projects like: coming out and telling about disaster, health...

01:02:52 T: yeah

01:02:53 R: yeah okay thank you. Yes thank you so much for participating, it was very nice of you.

Political Leader2 interview 02.11

- **Date:** 10.04.2017
- **Location:** Okharpauwa, ward 1
- **Survey no.:** 02.11
- **Oral consent:** yes
- **Folder:** A, no 4
- **Duration:** 54:42
- **I:** interviewee
- **T:** translator
- **R:** researcher

00:16 R: okay first of all I would to thank him for participating in this and answering my questions.

00:28 R: we will talk a little bit about the recovery process after the 2015 earthquake today and first of all can you explain to me how the local government has been involved in the recovery?

01:22 I: after the earthquake the VDC was involved for giving some money from the government side, they are giving some money. But most of the people who really needed the help, they are didn't get any help. The people who need it, they didn't get any help, like the money from the government side. So around ...

02:03 I: like around 25 houses who really needed the help from the government but they didn't get the help.

02:15 R: okay and can you explain to me why they didn't get the help?

02:42 I: in his view maybe it was a problem of like typing. The engineer came here to see what is happening here and they had to enter the data like what is happening, how much damage, they need to enter on their mobile or cell phone and then it will be send to the government but I think due to that problem they didn't send it.

03:17 R: so it is like the engineers did a mistake or?

03:19 I: technical mistake.

03:25 R: and how do you sort of measure: who are really affected and who are not so affected?

04:06 I: I am one of the local politicians, I have to see the community people, what is happening, so due to that I survey there – I visit the community and then I find like these are the most affected people, more than the other people, like that.

04:26 R: and how will you secure that the really affected people will get help that they need?

04:32 T: secure?

04:33 R: yeah how would you make sure they get the help? Like if you go out and find the really affected people how will you make help them if like the technical mistakes are happening?

05:17 I: they finalise the people first and then they register their name to the local

government again. They have already started to register again - those who are really affected and who didn't get the money. They hope that this time they will get it.

05:35 R: okay and how long is this process?

05:55 I: maybe it takes like 1,5 month

05:59 R: before they are registered and sending, starting sending the money.

06:02 T: yes

06:05 R: and what are to you, when you finalise the people, what are really affected people? Like is it the ones who lost their house or lost house and crops? Like what are really affected?

07:46 I: when I visit I find that most of the people lost their houses and also they are from poor background, like their economic background is very poor before earthquake and now they lost their houses and they fell like more poor.

08:11 R: so people where their houses are completely destroyed

08:16 I: completely destroyed, their poor background, they don't have enough land for crops – it is difficult for them to eat also when they have like no land, no agriculture, they have to buy everything. So that.

08:33 R: and how often do you visit the people around?

09:38 I: most of the people we find them in the teashop, when we go for tea we find them there and they come and talk to us, like I need that. The people who get help from VIN in earthquake time, the people also didn't get any help they are still living in transitional

houses. We find them in teashop and visiting them or find them on the way.

10:13 R: so you don't have like special days when you go there?

10:14 I: sometimes they have like a program, like meeting program, but not regularly. But sometimes like in a month.

10:27 R: and the really affected people that you are going to register now, how will you help them? Like will you give them money and how much money will you give them?

10:39 T: they are not giving the money, the government will give the money.

10:43 R: yeah right but do you know how much money?

10:48 T: like the same as the other, like 50.000. The same instalment money, the money from the government is the same as the others, not more not less.

10:58 R: okay and the people have complained a little about that the money is not enough for building a new house, what would you do about this? Because you are the voice from the local people to the national government

12:14 I: the money form the government is already enough for the people. The money given from the government, not only 50.000 they give around 150, they will give more money but that money the government give is well enough for the houses I have been other places where the government gave the money and they already started to build the houses for the money, that is enough. But the family has to work themselves, they have to work when they are building the houses. The money from the government and the house also earthquake resistant: like 2 or 3 rooms,

not so big but the money will be well enough for the people to build earthquake resistant houses. He saw some of the houses in other places.

13:11 R: and why do you think that the people have not started to build their houses here then?

13:46 I: the main reason for people did not start is manpower. Like no manpower, like not enough for everyone at the same time. That is why the people didn't started.

13:58 R: but like the other areas who already build some of the houses, they had more manpower there or what? Compared to here?

14:08 I: generally the people around the community they use like local manpower because not so expansive when they have to get from other places the price is double. Like because they have to come here, eat here so they will have like more money than compared to local people. That is why people are focusing on local people for manpower.

14:36 R: so they want local manpower

14:40 R: okay so the difference between this place and the other place where they already built some houses, is that they have less local manpower here than there or?

14:48 I: no here is one of the reasons like the money they get late and other places they get money faster, that is why.

14:58 R: okay and do you know why they get the money later here than the other places?

15:57 I: one of the reasons for people getting late money because where the government took some photos of each and every houses like how they are designing, how they are making, like they need photo from all the

area. The people who are working in the community didn't have the technical machines for this, like camera, the government didn't provide them so due to that they didn't take the photo to the government and the government can't give money faster.

16:36 R: okay so like the local engineers have to take photos here...

16:40 T: and they have to take the reports over there and give the report and then they will start.

16:46 R: and that is the process they are restarting again now?

14:49 T: yeah

16:53 R: can you explain to me what a normal work day is for you? Like do you go out and visit the people?

17:50 I: normally he wake up, he do milking to the cow and buffalos and after he goes to the teashop to meet the people there. Now election is coming soon, the people come there and they talk. And after come from there take breakfast and go to the field, I am also in agriculture, so I work in the field until 4 or 5 pm and then I go to the teashop talking with the people.

18:28 R: okay and then once a month you have the meeting?

18:30 I: yes

18:33 R: and this is like a common day for all the political leaders?

18:55 I: the people are different. I am here and I know people have other to work on their field, I go there but other people they always, every time talking. I just working on

the political for like a few hours not like fulltime

19:19 R: and do you follow the framework from the national government? For the recovery here? Or do you also have like your own framework?

19:30 T: like building the houses or what?

19:32 I: like all recovery so also social recovery, including the people...

19:46 R: there is like a national framework...

20:18 I: they are using both. Like their own framework and the framework from the government. It depends on people, if the people are very rich – if they want to make houses, they see the framework of the government, lots of types of design and they also include their framework, like mix – most of the people are doing a mix: their own and from the government

20:58 R: okay and can you tell me a little bit about the local framework? Like how do you try to help people recover with your framework?

21:42 I: when they are doing something, the people around here, go each and every where. If he working, for example if he start to build the houses, the people – the community they come here and see: you can do this and this and they also come here to work and help him and he also go there and help them and see what is good and not good. So they have like good communication.

22:18 R: okay so evaluating...

22:19 T: yeah evaluating the things

22:24 R: so you try to invite people here and try to talk with people when..

22:33 I: yes

22:33 R: okay so that is how you will include the people in the process

22:38 I: yes and they also know like, when the people come and they also see: know we have to do like this (for building the house), have like a knowledge also.

22:55 R: okay because that was also what I was thinking like, as far as I have understood you are mainly focused on the house and rebuilding the houses but you are also thinking of information about disasters or more like development in general for the people after the earthquake, do you also have a framework focused on that?

23:21 T: for what? Information?

23:21 R: yeah information and development for the people? Like we can start with the information part

24:15 I: information part, like if they want to do some information about earthquake or something they didn't include people form local, they didn't go there to see and take the knowledge. If they want to make earthquake resistant houses they didn't take the information from the people like: how are we gonna make it? They directly goto the engineer and have a knowledge from there and the engineer do the design.

24:52 R: but what about the other way? Like do you give information to the people about how earthquakes happen? What they should do when they happen? How they can prepare for earthquakes and so on?

25:06 T: after the earthquake you mean? They have done or not?

25:09 R: yeah if they have given the information to the people?

25:24 I: after the earthquake they did.

25:27 R: okay and how did they tell them? How did they manage that?

25:53 I: after the earthquake like all the community people gathering in one place, like open area and they cook themselves, like for everyone and they share their ideas with the masses. Every time – generally people meet together in like one month, so in one month they say like: do this and this.

26:30 R: okay so they went out to for example some people living in one shelter and went out and told them those things. So for example we went to ward 1, there were 200 people living in one shelter the first month so: in that month, was it at that time they told the information about the earthquake or how did they manage? Was it just a random day they asked the people to come or?

27:03 I: no gather around the same place, like when there were more people they talked: the earthquake is like that and now we have to this... random to everyone, everyone talked to everyone not like a meeting.

27:26 R: okay and after the earthquake have had some framework or project for, like we were talking a little bit about development, so like how you can help the really affected and poor people not just by giving them money?

28:17 I: first, when the earthquake happened first they gave food to the people, like collected food from different part and they also gave them like bed sheets and blankets. 28:46 I: they distributed to each and every house even though to those who were not really affected. To each and everyone.

29:01 R they got it from the national government?

29:12: I they collected from the people also, form the donor also, the international donor. In that time many Chinese and Indian people came themselves with the truck, busses, them bring themselves and then they distribute.

29:22 R: okay I see. And so like most of the people we talked to the last couple of days, they talked a lot about that after the earthquake they are a little bit worried and like some mentally there is something they have to deal with? Are you trying to help in this way or just in the physical way?

- T does not understand the question

29:48: like some people, I guess that after a disaster like this, some people are socially or psychological they need help, do they have any projects for that? Or is it just focused on the more physical things?

31:43 I: they don't really have a mental program to the people, they are just trying to do like physical program. After the earthquake he lost his father also due mental problems, he also offered like what to do, where to go, what to do and he died after 12 days after the earthquake.

32:17 R: okay because it is like in Denmark if something like this would happen the government would provide a psychologist to all families.

31:26 I: they don't have it here. They are only thinking of the physical things.

32:49 R: so what aspects of the recovery that the local VDC has done so far, what do you think are well done? Like what a good job have you done so far?

33:31 I: the local VDC provided some money to built temporary houses, to buy some food and clothes in that time it was very cold so buy some woollen clothes for the winter season. And now also providing some money for building the houses.

33:53 R: okay so that is the best part. And what aspects of the recovery do think could be improved?

34:39 I: most recovery now they have to register their name first, like those who are really affected did not get help until now, so provide to them first and after that start to build the houses for each and everyone. So in 1,5 year everyone will have a new house – 1,5 year from now on.

35:08 R: so like the process should be improved. And who decides this process? The local government or national?

35:17 I: the national government. All, when local government said to the national government and the national government will start to work.

35:26 R: okay so this VDC have already told them that they don't approve with the process of how people are applying for money?

35:37 I: yeah register the name, they already said to the national government and now the national government will try.

35:45 R: okay and have... do like all the leaders in the VDC agree with this? That the process can be improved?

36:16 I: everyone agree with him, agree with his answer.

36:34 R: so have they told the national government that the process is very difficult

for them to go through with? Like that the process should be improved?

36:46 I: yes be improved.

36:50 R: so the national government knows they just haven't done anything about it or?

35:55 I: they are processing now. Some of the people are getting like second instalment of money, those who started. In that time, those who didn't get first instalment they will get in that time and also.

37:25 R: do you think that the earthquake had changed something? Like politically in the system? Has it done any changes in politics in Nepal?

38:16 I: after the earthquake, one of the good things from the earthquake to the national political leaders, after the earthquake Nepal got a new constitution so that is one of the major changes and others are same as before

38:34 R: so like the local election has nothing to do with the earthquake?

38:38 I: nothing, now we have to see like local election now, after the election we will see what is happening

38:49 R: and the election will happen?

38:50 I: yes, I think so in one month

38:59 R: there has not been an election for 18 years or something?

39:13 I: 18 years they didn't have any election but now after a long time.

39:25 I: now most of the people are involved in elections now.

39:34 R: do you think that a lot of people will vote here?

39:42 I: yes

39:45 R: and how many people are there in the local VDC?

40:04 I: 2700 who have listed to vote.

40:18 R: but how many political leaders are there in this VDC

40:30 I: 4

40:59 I: 4 parties and around 20 people. Not each party, one party – each party, 5 people.

41:13 R: and do you know how many people there are living in this VDC?

41:29 I: don't know

41:33 R: they don't have something to count the people here or?

41:35 I: just now they have like counting but they haven't received the results.

41:42 R: so they will try to figure out how many people there are, do you know when they will know that?

41:56 I: maybe after election, know they just have to tell about the voting list not like total population.

42:21 R: and if you were to describe a successful recovery, how would you describe it?

43:14 I: firstly they need like education and more help. After that shelter and then transportation. Like that. If the people have like good help, each and every people like good help, every student and children have

education, every family get houses, good transportation.

43:53 R: are you trying to do this when you are working in the government?

44:37 I: to this community, like most the children have got education, they have knowledge but for the health people are poor so they don't have a good health. We are trying to improve it.

45:04 R: okay and how are you trying to do that?

46:21 I: until now they didn't have any facility but they are thinking when the local election has happened, they plan to have a development, health and education in each ward. Those people who win in that ward they have to develop these things, a health post, hospital, a good education system to manage, so they will focus.

46:52 R: okay so like the ones responsible for ward 3 they have to do health centre, education...

47:00 I: yes each and every ward. Like now this is not like whole Okharpauwa is one ward, like and there are all the wards in other parts. So they have to manage. The people who win in their part they have to manage everything in that area.

47:19 R: and do you... what ward... like if he get elected, what ward would he be in?

47:38 I: ward 1, here.

47:47 R: and talking about education, do you think that free education could be a possibility here in Nepal or like in this VDC?

48:06 I: there is no free education

48:12 R: but do you think it could be a possibility in the future?

48:23 I: yes there is possibility from the government side, if the government want – they can.

48:28 R: so the national government has to decide first.

48:31 I: yes

48:39 R: just another question like the taxes here in Nepal, are the collected locally or nationally?

48:47 T: locally

48:48 R: okay so the VDC here collected taxes from..

48:52 T: the people who have like agriculture, doing land and have houses they have to pay their taxes from their land, house. They don't have to pay each and every month but they have to pay the tax if they want to sell their land. They have to pay the tax to the government. They don't have to pay taxes for selling crops or having a house. Only they have to pay the taxes if the community have like a municipality, if it is a municipality the government provide all kinds of facilities like they provide: water, electricity each and every facility and when they provide the facility they started to take the taxes, before that they didn't start.

49:44 R: but they have a municipality now?

49:45 T: this is not a municipality, this is VDC. But now it was like not municipality but like local

50:00 R: okay so here they will only collect the taxes if people sell their land?

50:03 R: land...

50:08 R: and it will not function like a municipality at any time

50:12 T: no

50:13 R: they are satisfied with the way it functions like this?

50:15 T: yes

50:18 T: when they are a municipality, they have to get all the facilities first and then decide this is municipality, like each family have a toilet, house, get water from their own resource.

50:41 R: but like this VDC is not going to be a municipality at any time?

50:46 T: maybe in the future.

50:49 R: but do they want it to be?

51:05 I: maybe in the future, I don't think so.

51:12 R: so it is not one of the goals of the local government?

51:16 I: no

51:24 R: well I don't have any more questions so I will just ask if there is anything you would like to add or talk about?

51:56 I: before also VIN had been involved in the development work so I request from

VIN to provide some educational teacher, provide teachers to the schools. If they provide teacher to the schools, it will be more helpful for our community and the people. So I don't request for other development things, I request for the VIN help the schools with providing teachers.

52:28 R: so what kind of teachers and is it a public or private school?

52:54 I in English or math, they need the teacher like higher level education

53:04 R: so they would like local, like Nepalese teachers or...

53:11 I: Nepalese or international, any, both who can teach. It will be more helpful for us.

53:22 R: but international teachers

53:24 I: we will find the teacher and if the organisation can pay him, we will find ourselves.

53:33 R: because for example for me people are only volunteering for short period of time, it would be difficult to hire them as teacher for only 2-3 months right?

53:45 I: that is why Nepali is good

54:16 R: yes it there anything else?

54:19 I: no

54:20 R: okay then I would like to thank him, danyabat