

Review of the Policies Concerning on Supply of Construction Materials in Earthquake Affected Districts (Rasuwa, Nuwakot)

Final Report

(Revised after discussion with PAN officials held on September 7, 2017)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On April 25, 2015, Nepal was hit by strong earthquake of 7.8 magnitude, followed by subsequent aftershocks, including the one of 7.3 magnitude on May 12, 2015. The earthquake and the series of aftershocks claimed more than 8000 lives, injured more than 22,000 people and destroyed more than 5,00,000 houses. A recent, 2016, study carried out by Practical Action (PAN) titled **“Supply Chain of Construction Materials in Earthquake Affected Districts: An Assessment in Nuwakot and Rasuwa”** flagged in many policies issues hampering the smooth supply of construction materials in the earthquake affected areas. In order for these issues to be appropriately addressed, PAN felt necessary for more in-depth study of policies issues and hold policy dialogues with wider section of stakeholders to recommend concrete actions for the policy changes, if required, to overcome the supply chain bottleneck of construction material to earthquake affected districts.

The study report of PAN on ‘Supply Chain of Construction Materials in Earthquake Affected Districts-An Assessment in Nuwakot and Rasuwa’ highlighted the overall situation of supply chain of construction materials in Nuwakot and Rasuwa. The study also identified various issues related to transportation, quality, legal, aggregation, storage capacity, capital/finance, technology. The study also indicates that Peoples’ preference has changed in selection of building type after earthquake.

The report was thoroughly studied and reviewed during desk study and literature review phase. Issues identified in the assessment provided the basis for data collection and analysis. Field visit was conducted for the affected districts- Nuwakot and Rasuwa so as to rapidly verify the issues on site and get a first hand feeling of the issues identified in the assessment study. During field visits, stakeholders meetings, KIIs, interactions, observations, focused group discussion were conducted with local stakeholders. A policy dialogue at central level with the purpose of sharing and validating the findings regarding the nature of policy issues, their significance, likely consequences (effect) was organized.

Issues identified in the report were verified on the basis of desk and field study. Additional issues were also identified during the field visit as well as interaction with key stakeholders. These issues were analysed on their importance, relevance, and implication for social, economic and environmental cost of not addressing them. Many of the issues have become irrelevant at this time; however the following critical issues need to be addressed by local and central level agencies.

Supply of timber

The provision made in the “ Directives for Production, Import and Management of Timber for Earthquake Victims 2072” has eased the process of getting timber, its transportation and distribution. However, the information is not well circulated to earthquake affected families. NRA shall instruct the district officers to disseminate information on the approved guidelines for