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**Empowering Disadvantaged Rural Communities in Face of the Disasters:  
In Earthquake Aftermath Case of Nepal – A Study of Sankhu and Khokana  
Historical Settlements**

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**POLICY RESEARCH REPORT**



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## Abbreviations

CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
GoN	Government of Nepal
EU	European Union
HFA	Hyogo Framework for Action
KKHT	Kulekhani Hetauda Tunnel Highway
MoAC	Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
MCAA	Ministry for Cultural Assets and Activities
NDMC	National Disaster Management Council
NRA	National Reconstruction Authority
NSDRM	National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management
ORR	Outer Ring Road
PDNA	Post-Disaster Needs Assessment
PDRF	Post-Disaster Recovery Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
VDC	Village Development Committee

## CHAPTER I - INTRODUCTION

Spanning over the central part of Himalayas, Nepal is an agro dominated country divided into three distinct ecological zones- the Mountain, Hills and Tarai. The Mountain and Hill region makes up 83 percent of the total area of Nepal and the Tarai plain covers 17 percent of the landmass (Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MoAC), 2012). The natural environment of the country varies according to the geographical belts. Each ecological belt inhabits distinct altitudinal and climatic conditions which offers the land with enormous diversity.

Situated in a unique geological and hydro-meteorological setting of a relatively young and emerging mountain range, Nepal has fragile geology and steep topography making it 20th most disaster prone country in the world (Government of Nepal (GoN), 2016). In terms of relative vulnerability, Nepal ranks, 4th, 11th and 30th with regard to climate change related hazard, earthquake and flood hazard respectively (Practical Action, 2010). Although not a recurrent phenomenon, earthquake is the most tragic seismological hazard resulting into serious humanitarian crises in the country. Historically, earthquakes in Nepal have caused severe casualties and accounted for loss of millions of lives. Year 2015 witnessed the same, on 25<sup>th</sup> April and 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015, Nepal and its surrounding area were hit by earthquakes which are considered to be the most devastating in the living memory of the inhabitants of the affected areas. The 7.9 magnitude quake was the strongest to hit Nepal for 81 years (Dey, 2015). This was followed by another severe earthquake on 12 May which further worsened the humanitarian situation. The two earthquakes affected over 5 million people and the death toll was 8,702 (UNDP, 2016). The earthquakes destroyed 498,852 houses and 2,656 government buildings, besides partially damaging another 256,697 private houses and 3,622 government buildings (National Reconstruction Authority (NRA), GoN , 2016). Additionally, the destruction was widespread covering residential and government buildings, heritage sites, schools and health posts, rural roads, bridges, water supply systems, agricultural land, trekking routes, hydropower plants and sports facilities.

When a disaster occurs, it devastates not only the physical fabric of the place, but also the meaning of the place, and the sense of belonging. The 2015 Earthquake had severe impact on the tangible heritage of Nepal, the traditional buildings, monuments and world-renowned indigenous Newari architectures in the

Kathmandu Valley were literally collapsed to the ground, completely changing the cultural landscapes of several traditional towns such as Bungamati, Lubhu, Khokana and Sankhu.

Sankhu and Khokana both are important parts of the broader civilization of Kathmandu valley, preserving half a millennium, year's old history of its existence. As an old quote goes, "All roads lead to Rome," similarly, "All the narrow pavements lead to the temple of Bajrayogini" in Sankhu and "All the narrow gullies pave their way to the temple of Rudrayani" in Khokana. Despite the historical significance, the living heritages of Sankhu and Khokana still awaits to stand tall and regain its glory.

## **Background**

After the massive earthquake the country faced, an estimated USD 6.7 billion is needed for the successful recovery and reconstruction of Nepal following the earthquakes as per the government experts (Government of Nepal (GoN), 2016). Reconstruction is undoubtedly a massive undertaking. In order to meet the associated challenges, the Government of Nepal announced the establishment of a National Reconstruction Authority (NRA), a national body that will report to Cabinet and is empowered to set recovery policies, and provide oversight to the recovery efforts of Government, as well as the support provided by international and local actors. UNDP stands ready to provide operational, as well as planning and capacity development support to enable the new body carry out its mandate.

The objective of the UNDP recovery programme is to provide recovery assistance to the earthquake affected population and assist the Government of Nepal to coordinate, plan and manage the recovery and reconstruction process. The focus of the comprehensive recovery programme is spanned over four main areas which are: (1) supporting recovery planning, coordination and NRA strengthening; (2) restoration of livelihoods and economic recovery; (3) governance and public service delivery; and (4) disaster risk reduction and resilience building.

The collaboration of GoN and UNDP for the national reconstruction project have hardly prioritized historical settlements in their mandates. Historical settlements, in the periphery of the capital city Kathmandu are the hallmarks of ancient Nepalese culture. They embrace unique combination of the model houses of Newari architecture, monuments, culture and life styles. Despite the historical significance they uphold, nowhere in

the national reconstruction framework, specificity can be seen in their restoration. The attention so far has been given only to the reconstruction of the cultural heritage listed as World Heritage Sites by UNESCO.

The 2015 earthquakes severely damaged two major historical settlements Sankhu and Khokana. Post two years of the disaster, these settlements are yet to receive subsequent recovery and reconstruction effort. Though, some local efforts have been undertaken, it is very nominal to maintain the same degree of coherence and effectiveness required to maintain the legacy of historical settlement. In the absence of effective national initiatives and institutionalization, these sites are at the verge of losing essence and the uniqueness they bestow. This situation, thus, creates an urgency to lay a strong foundation of ownership by the national and local authorities to build back better.

### **Purpose of Research**

The aftermath of an earthquake of magnitude 7.8 Richter Scale, with its epicenter at Mandre, Barpak VDC-02, Gorkha at 11:56 am on 2072 Baisakh 12 (25 April 2015) and its frequent aftershocks, will always be heart-throbbing and Nepal was not exception to it added by the rampant devastation of both natural and man-made structures. Thousands of people have been killed, thousands injured and hundreds of thousands of houses completely destroyed and many people rendered homeless. Many government and public office buildings, historical, cultural and archaeological heritages; physical infrastructures like school buildings, bridges, roads, etc. have also been destroyed. If we state in numbers, the two devastating earthquakes that hit Nepal in April and May 2015 had caused death toll over 8,790 and more than 22,300 injuries. The earthquakes destroyed 498,852 houses and 2,656 government buildings as per UNDP (2016) estimates.

The Government declared fourteen districts (Gorkha, Kavrepalanchok, Dhading, Nuwakot, Rasuwa, Sindupalchok, Dolakha, Ramechhap, Okhaldunga, Makwanpur, Sindhuli, Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Lalitpur) as the crisis-hit districts and started rescue and relief works. Several policies have been designed – some new and some execution of previous policies namely Essential Services Operation Act (1957), Temporary Shelter Plans, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Plan, etc. but none of these seemed to prioritize the historical (heritage) settlements in the places very close to the capital like Sankhu, Khokana etc. This study will try to facilitate the policy design for the historical (conserved heritage) settlement in the Sankhu and Khokana.

## Objectives of the Research

- To review the current plans and policies subject to the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the infrastructures.
- To assess the potential gap between the nationally designed policies and the policy demand of the commoners.
- To suggest the way forward to supplement the policy development for the reconstruction and rehabilitation on the historical (conserved heritage) settlements (Sankhu and Khokana).

## Methods Used for the Study

### Study Area

Sankhu and Khokana endowed with many historical and cultural heritages are important parts of the broader civilization of Kathmandu valley. Both sites, emulates a unique a combination of original settlement dwellers and traditional living environment. The rich cultural assets, historic architecture, exceptional Newari craftsmanship and diverse intangible heritage makes Sankhu and Khokana an exemplary historical settlements to look into.

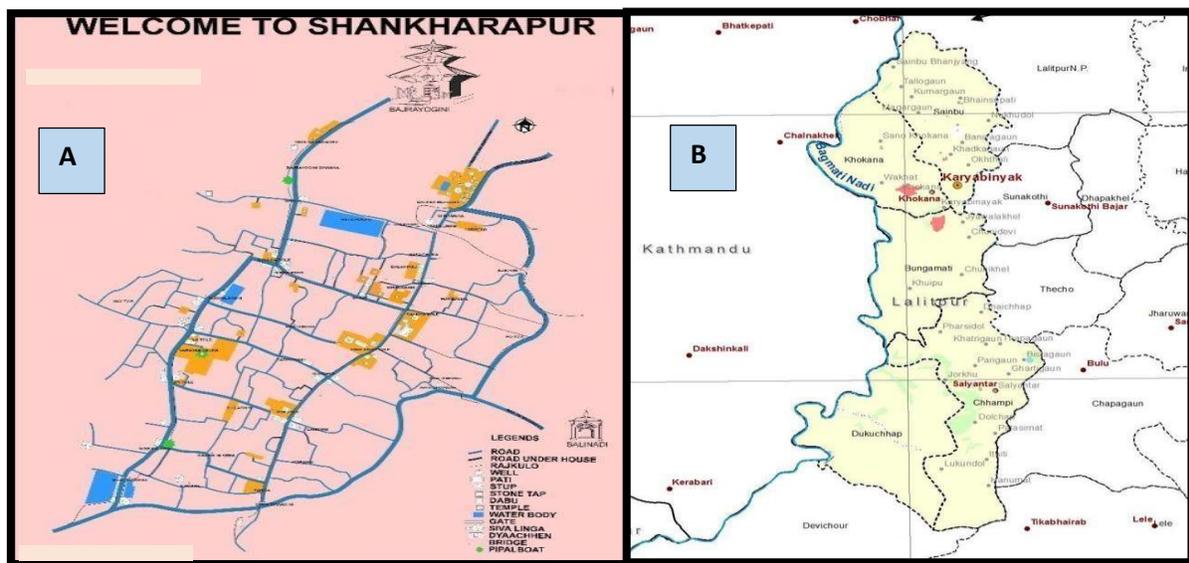


Figure 1 Research Site A. Shankrapur Municipality (Sankhu) and B. Karyabinayak Municipality (Khokana)

Sankhu is a recently declared municipality. It is the ancient town (12.5 hectares) populated by the Newars, the original inhabitants of the Kathmandu Valley. At the time of the 2011 Nepal census Sankhu had a population of 4333 living in 928 individual households (CBS, 2011).

Khokana is a former Village Development Committee (VDC) which has been merged with the neighboring VDC's of Bungamati, Chhampi, Dukuchhap and Sainbu to form the municipality of Karyabinayak in Lalitpur District of Central Nepal. According to CBS (2011), the whole population of Khokana VDC is 4927 living with 1056 individual households.

## Methodology

The major methods used for the study were:

- **Desk Review:** All the relevant plans and policies for disaster management, rehabilitation and reconstruction were reviewed and analyzed. *The Natural Calamity (Relief Act) -1982*, *The National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management (NSDRM, 2009)*, *Post-Disaster Need Assessment*, *National Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Policy (2016)* are the major national documents that have been reviewed. Along with the national documents, the Master plan prepared by the reconstruction committee of Sankhu and Khokana municipality were also studied to identify the gap between national policy and local demand.
- **Focus Group Discussions:** Four FGDs with eight participants each in Khokana and Sankhu were conducted. The discussion was carried out to dig information related to post-earthquake reconstruction in the sites. It enabled to identify the potential demand of the commoners and shed light on the perception of the locals regarding the reconstruction activities in the respective sites. The list of FGD participants is given in Annex I.
- **Key Informants' Interview:** Twelve KIIs, seven in Khokana and five in Sankhu were carried out. The KIIs helped us to look up to the expert opinion for the historical settlements in both places. The representatives from the reconstruction committees, local politicians, local administrative officials, engineers and journalists were the participants of the KIIs. The KIIs helped to triangulate and comply the idea of the commoners and the experts interviewed during the research period. The list of key informants is available in Annex II.

- **Field Observations:** Site visit and observation of different places in Sankhu and Khokana were made. Photographic documentation was done to know about the damage situation and post-earthquake reconstruction activities (see Annex III).
- **Transect Walk:** Transect Walk was carried out in both locations to understand the unseen dimensions that could be brought into notice by the locals.

## **Organization of the study**

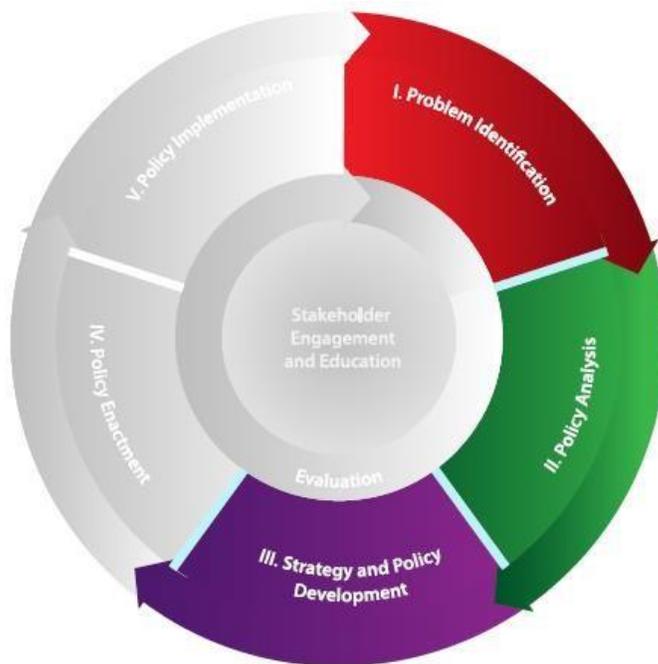
The final outcome of the report has been organized into four chapters:

- **Chapter 1: Introduction-** Gives an overview of the research including the background, purpose, objectives and methodology adopted for the study.
- **Chapter 2: Review of National and International Paradigms -** This section includes the review of relevant plans and policies for disaster management in context to Nepal and international practices for the preservation of cultural heritage specific to Italy.
- **Chapter 3: Key Policy Interpretation and Analyses-** This chapter covers the analysis of national and local plans for reconstruction of the historical settlements. It summarizes the findings from KIIs and FGDs and presents specific case study on Khokana and Sankhu.
- **Chapter 4: Conclusions and Way Forward:** This chapter draws the major conclusions from the research study and give a way forward for effective restoration and preservation of historical settlements in Nepal.

## CHAPTER II - REVIEW of NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PARADIGMS

Policy analysis is a social and political activity. Analysts take moral and intellectual responsibility for the quality of their policy-analysis work. But policy analysis goes beyond personal decision making. First, the subject matter concerns the lives and well-being of large numbers of their fellow citizens. Second, the process and results of policy analysis usually involve other professionals and interested parties: it is often done in teams or office wide settings; the immediate consumer is a “client” of some sort, such as a hierarchical superior; and the ultimate audience will include diverse subgroups of politically attuned supporters and opponents of the analysts’ work. All of these facts condition the nature of policy analysis and have a bearing on the nature of what is meant by “quality work.”

### Conceptual Framework



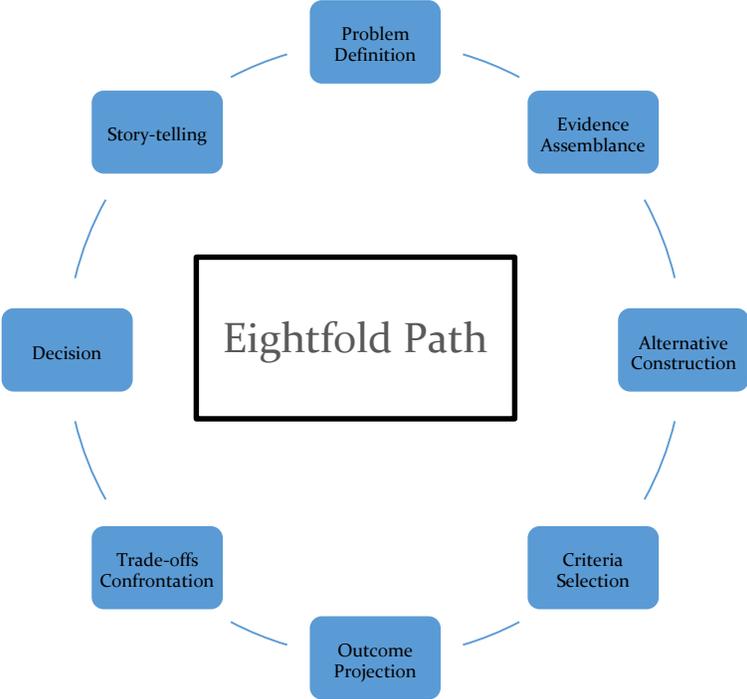
**Figure 2 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention CDC's Policy Analytical Framework**

Source: *US Department of Health and Human Services; 2013.*

For the policy analysis, I will follow the strategy propounded by CDC's Policy Analysis Framework as shown in the figure above. The problem identification will be carried out in detail, then the policy analysis will be carried out based on the national documents and the local opinions. After the interviews and the group discussions carried out in the study site, the strategy and policy development will be done incorporating the win-win situation. Since the government has been partnering with the local bodies in the study sites, policy enactment and policy implementation strategies will also be worked for.

**Theoretical Framework**

For the policy analysis, an ideal theoretical framework is essential. For the same, after a considerable research, I found a theoretical framework that can be followed for the policy analysis: *The Eightfold Path*



**Figure 3 Eightfold Path to More Effective Problem Solving**

Source: Bardach, E. (2012).

## **Review of plans and policies of Nepal**

### **Natural Calamity (Relief Act) -1982**

NCRA 1982 is a milestone legal instrument for disaster management in Nepal. The act was formulated in 1982 and amended in 1989 and 1992. According to NCRA 1982, the provision has been made to set up different institutions from center to local level to arrange relief and rescue works during the emergency. It focuses primarily on the response. The act empowers government to the state of emergency during the intensive disaster. It also empowers the government to allocate for dedicated fund at central to local level as a Disaster Relief Fund for delivering effective relief and rescue during the disaster (Dangal , 2011)

Disaster risk reduction began to receive more attention from Government side since the 10th Five Year Development Plan (2002-2007) and the subsequent periodic plans. Furthermore, in alignment with Nepal's commitment to the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA), the Government of Nepal approved the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management in 2009.

### **The National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management (NSDRM, 2009)**

NSDRM was formulated by the GoN with a vision of building a "Disaster Resilient Nepal". Aligning with the HFA, NSDRM has identified 5 priority strategic actions. The 5 priority action of NSDRM are listed below:

Priority Action 1: Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation

Priority Action 2: Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning

Priority Action 3: Better knowledge management for building a culture of safety

Priority Action 4: Reducing the underlying risk factors

Priority Action 5: Enhance preparedness for effective response

The strategy proposed new institutional arrangement for disaster management which entail the formation of a National Disaster Management Council (NDMC) chaired by Prime Minister. According to Dangal (2011), the strategy realizes that disaster management is possible only through integrated, participatory, and

collaborative involvement of all partners. As such due importance is given to UN agencies, donor community, inter-governmental agencies, I/NGOs, and people from different segments of civil societies.

### **Post-Disaster Recovery Framework (PDRF) 2016-2020**

PDRF is a document published by the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) of the GoN with technical and financial support from UNDP and the World Bank to provide a systematic, structured and prioritized framework for implementing recovery and reconstruction post 2015 earthquake.

The framework lays out strategic recovery objectives and summarizes in an integrated manner the policy decisions, institutional arrangements, financing and financial management strategies. It emphasizes the implementation and monitoring systems to plan and manage recovery and reconstruction. Post Disaster Need Assessment (PDNA) forms the basis for the PDRF, with strategies, priorities and financial requirements.

Looking into the transition from PDNA to PDRF, PDRF has a clear vision and strategic objectives for guiding the resilient recovery. It also defines time frames, priorities, institutional arrangements and financial planning. It not only pays attention to repair and reconstruction of houses but also emphasizes the inclusion of the vulnerable populations by supporting livelihoods, restoring social infrastructure, and restoration of heritage sites destroyed by the earthquake, among others (NRA, 2016-2017)

### **National Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Policy (2016)**

The Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Policy provides the policy instrument for steering reconstruction and rehabilitation. The key elements of the National Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Policy are the following:

- Reconstruction of housing and cultural heritage sites
- Relocation and land use
- Engaging the community, private sector, volunteers and diaspora in reconstruction
- Integrating principles of disaster risk reduction and building back better
- Providing financial assistance

The strategic objectives have been set for the reconstruction and rehabilitation policy. The strategic objective encompasses restoration and improvement of government buildings and cultural heritage, in rural areas and cities; strengthening people and communities capacity to reduce risk and vulnerability; improve access

to services and restore environmental resilience; reestablishment of productive sectors; strengthening state capacity to respond to people's needs during disaster.

## **Review of Italy's Cultural Heritage Preservation**

Italy's constitution states "the Republic will preserve the landscape and historic and artistic patrimony of the nation" (Republic of Italy, 1947) and the government adheres to this principle until today. Efforts of the country's publicly regulated preservation of historical structures can be seen in how Siena still looks medieval and there isn't a skyscraper in Venice (Waterhouse, 2009).

An updated version of 2004 Cultural Heritage and Landscapes entered into effect in Italy on March 31, 2016, which set new provisions and innovative ways to preserve Italian cultural heritage. Some of the provisions included in this code are as follows (Figueroa, 2016):

### *General Protection of the Italian Cultural Heritage*

The major aim of designing the Code was to reinforce the importance of Italy's cultural heritage to the identity of the Italian people. Art, history, archaeology, anthropology, archives, bibliographical libraries, museums, picture and art gallery among other things are what cultural heritage is composed of. Religious cultural property is to be protected by the relevant religious institution. The Code mandated the use of "Declaration of Cultural Interest" certificate for certain properties that must maintain an online registry of such declarations. The Code also has provisions for the regions and other public territorial entities to enter into financial agreements with foundations to implement protective activities for the cultural heritage.

### *Governmental Protection*

Renovations or any other form of changes that require material intervention in the protected cultural property will be guided by the procedure that the Code will establish; environmental impact assessment will also be included here. Under the Code, private owners of legally protected cultural property may be compelled to carry out conservation of such property. The Ministry for Cultural Assets and Activities (MCAA), created by the Code, may order the transportation of protected cultural property to public institutions that provide custody for movable cultural property and grant them temporary custody rights over such property. Cultural property may also be given in deposit to specific institutions for purposes of better protecting it.

### *Regulation of activities in protected areas*

The Code heavily regulates commercial activities in areas that have archaeological, historical, artistic, or landscape value. The Code prohibits disposition of certain property from certain cultural domains, such as places of archaeological interest, national monuments, museums, galleries, libraries, and archives, among others. The Code also mandates that enforcement authorities will report all banned commercial activities that are carried out with the use of protected cultural property.

### *Protection of Landscape Assets*

Landscape assets, defined as territory that is expressive of the Italian identity and whose character derives from both natural and man-made factors will be protected by the Code. The landscape areas that will receive legal protection as cultural property in Italy will be listed in the Code. Destroying or harming areas that have a landscape interest is prohibited by the Code; owners, possessors or holders intending to do so will have to submit a proposal for intervention in the protected asset to the respective authorities and will only commence any work after the respective authorization is issued. Government authorization will not be needed, however, for certain minor interventions.

### *Penalties associated with violations of the code*

The Code mandates that a violator must pay an amount to the state equivalent to the amount of cultural property due to lack of traceability on in cases where they are exited from the national territory.

Administrative penalties are imposed by the code for violating its protective provisions related to the conservation of cultural property, urban construction and cultural property preservation, and other activities. Administrative penalties will also be established by the Code for violating the provisions on the international circulation of protected cultural assets.

Criminal penalties are established by the Code for acts such as the destruction, modification, unauthorized restoration, or performance of works of any type affecting legally protected cultural property; these include incarceration for six months to one year and a fine of €775 to €38,734.50. The performance of activities on protected cultural property that adversely affects its conservation is subject to this same punishment. The unauthorized transfer of cultural assets will be met with a penalty of up to a year of imprisonment and a fine

of €1,549.50 to €77,469. Criminal penalties are also set for conduct that violates the Code's provisions on archaeological research and the theft of cultural property belonging to the state. Under the Code, collaboration by a convicted party in the recovery of lost or stolen cultural property is a mitigating circumstance in their sentencing.

#### *Strengthening of Government Powers in relation to Cultural Property*

The Code strengthens the central government's supervision mechanisms to protect cultural property located throughout the country. The Code also charges governmental entities (including local authorities) with the obligation to preserve and create inventories of cultural property under their administration. It also recognizes and strengthens cooperative activities between government and academic entities aimed at disseminating knowledge of the national cultural heritage and creates mechanisms for cooperative activities between public and private entities aimed at protecting the national landscape. The Code provides rules applicable to the upkeep of the colors of the facades of culturally protected buildings. It also expands the prohibition against placing or affixing signs or other means of publicity on buildings or in areas protected as cultural property.

The Code regulates the payment of compensation in cases where the restitution of cultural property must be made and eliminates the statute of limitations on legal actions for the recovery of cultural property illegally removed from Italy.

#### *Procedures on Landscaping, Real Estate and Interveners*

To protect real estate and other areas of cultural value throughout Italy, the Code regulates the procedure for the issuance of a "Declaration of Remarkable Public Interest." It sets forth stringent rules for the approval of landscape planning projects and activities and establishes the procedure for the approval of "Landscape Plans" affecting certain territories with cultural value in the country, a procedure that includes public participation and consultation mechanisms. It also grants legal recognition to the profession of interveners in cultural property (i.e., handlers, specialists, experts).

### *Protected Cultural Property Held by Private Hands*

Cooperation mechanisms for the control of how the Italian cultural property is circulated outside the national territory is created by the code; this is done in accordance to UNESCO's 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage into the Italian legal system. It also implements European Union legislation on the restitution of cultural property to its state of origin and on cooperative activities with other EU countries concerning cultural property stolen or illegally removed from Italy.

## CHAPTER III - KEY POLICY INTERPRETATIONS AND ANALYSES

### Community and Community sectors

#### **SANKHU**

Sankhu is the ancient town of Newar community located in the foothills of Shivapuri range. It is one of the oldest settlements situated 17 km northeast of Kathmandu valley on the bank of Salinadi River. The foundation of the kingdom of Sankhu is attributed to the goddess Bajrayogini whose shrine is located in the orelt above the town of Sankhu. If we look into the history, Lichhavis inscriptions testify the antiquity of Sankhu. According to Shrestha (2012), the oldest inscription found in Sankhu is that of King Vamanadeva in 538 AD.

Until recently, Sankhu was a part of the three erstwhile Village Development Committees (VDCs) – Pukhulachhi, Suntol and Vajrayogini, however, Sankhu now forms the historic core area of recently declared Shankharapur Municipality. Sankhu famous for its ancient Sankha shaped (Conch Shell) town structure is endowed with rich art and architecture, ritual practices, cultural and religious festivals. It is home to time-honored temples like Bajrayogini and Mahadev temples.

Settlement pattern in Sankhu is compact resembling typical Newari town. Houses are closely spaced - built back to back with narrow lanes between the two buildings. These houses are made up of burnt and un-burnt clay bricks and have uniform height seldom exceeding 3 ½ stories. The streets in Sankhu are mostly brick paved with narrow lanes leading to wider streets, courtyards and squares. There are open spaces all over the town, which facilitates social, cultural and economic activities of people living there. Courtyards are surrounded by buildings on all sides, or sometimes on three sides with the fourth one replaced either by a pond or a well with a gate. The enclosed courtyard, though originally designed for providing protection, also provides access to private dwellings (Shrestha , Bajracharya, Bajracharya, Shrestha, & Maharjan , 2016). Owing to the presence of four caves, Sankhu is also known as Eighty Siddhas. The town comprise of five different entrance gates which have distinct symbolic functions and are used for different purposes. The main gate “*Bhau Dhwakha*” is the Bride Gate to welcome new bride, “*Sangal Dhwakha*” is the daughter gate for the farewell of daughters, “*Dhunlla Dhwakha*” is used for bringing Goddess Bajrayogini inside the town,

“*Mahadyo Dhwakha*” is use to take dead body to the crematorium whereas “*Naari Dhwakha*” is used for entry and exit of Holy god Madhav Narayan and his devotees during Shalinadi festival (Shrestha B. G., 2012) .

Shalinadi River is a prime holy location of devotees to visit during month of Swosthani brata, which is a month long worship to Goddess Swasthani, through fasting, meditation and ritual bathing, by men and women. The festival lasts for 31 days at the temple, chanting hymns, dipping into the holy river and meditating by devotees. It is believed that the devotees who perform this puja will base their wish granted. Sankhu thus, holds utmost significance in terms of religion and culture and marks an important pilgrimage site or Buddhists and Hindus alike.

### ***KHOKANA***

Khokana is the ancient town situated 8km south of Kathmandu valley (on the outskirts of Patan). It is a living museum untouched by the postmodern time and lifestyle. Khokana exhibits typical Newari settlement which dates back to 15<sup>th</sup> century AD. The VDC has been named Khokana, from the Newari word “Khona” which means “telling while weeping”. Khokana is the architectural treasure famous for Newari craftsmanship and architecture. Chaityas, Vihars, Dhunge dharas (water spout), Paatis (rest house), Guthis and Temples of Mother Goddess-Rudrayani and Sikhala Devi are impeccable examples of tangible heritage of Khokana. In addition to archaeological heritage, Khokana also bestows the legacy of living heritage. Diverse form of performing arts, social practice, festive events, customary and material folklores are part of Khokana’s rich culture (UNESCO , 2007).The customary folklore like Sikhali/ Rudrayani Jatra, Kartik Jatra and Gai Jatra; life cycle rituals-Ihi, Belbibaha (a symbolic marriage of young girls with nature) are some of the major intangible heritage possessed by the community.

Historically, Khokana is a vernacular village with medieval settlement pattern. It has a geometric form- “Swastika” (map of cosmic representation) with intersecting lines and squares. Rudrayani temple is built in Chwe Lachi square which at the center of Khokana. Rudrayani is regarded as Mother Goddess of the town. The temple symbolizes the religious belief of the community and showcases distinctive architectural feature of inclined lattice work in the second storey.

Khokana recently has been merged with the neighboring VDC's of Bungamati, Chhampi, Dukuchhap and Sainbu to form the municipality of Karyabinayak in Lalitpur District. Majority of the population in Khokana are dependent on agriculture for their livelihood. Besides agriculture, people are involved in nonfarm activities like oil pressing, spinning, knitting and carpet weaving. However, the commercial activities in Khokana is yet to take a pace. Like any other ancient Newari town, Khokana has a compact settlement. Frequently narrow lanes lead from the main road into the maze of houses. Most houses in Khokana are made up of clay bricks and are closely spaced. The compact settlement and its neighborhoods are designed in such a way that narrow lanes leading wider streets, courtyards and squares give scene of wonder.

## **Regional Economies**

### ***Economies in General***

Sankhu and Khokana, as previously told, are two of the oldest Newari townships situated very close to the capital of the country, Kathmandu. Before individually understanding the economies of both places, we need to understand that these communities typically fall into similar category with respect to the development practices.

They are the places whose structure have been developed with limited production functions. They are till-date satisfied with the classical economic phenomenon which says that whatever is produced needs to be consumed, i.e., there is no much concern on saving and investment. The community there still believes that the external world is systematically capable of productive manipulation, therefore, skeptic isolation is the priority. But, if somebody would believe that the society is static and increase in their output is not what they want, it would be wrong. Acreage could well be expanded; some technical innovations could well be adopted and the trade could be improvised but there always used to be a ceiling on their desires for the same. Therefore, the modernization was either absent or not systematized. For instance, it is not that agricultural production did not develop, but the level of productivity was limited for the intervention of modern science and its usage to the mind-frame.

Due to these reasons, the limited advancement in agricultural production led to highest proportion of resource-usage to the agriculture which went parallel to the hierarchical social structure based on the amount

spent on the agricultural systems. Vertical mobility, is, nevertheless, possible in the society. Family and clan links are dominantly important in the society and thus, the value system geared up to fatalism. The range of possibilities did not change for the grandchildren from that of the grandparents. Being so, the central political role exist in the societies often making self-sufficient societies, thus the center of gravity of such societies remain in the hands of those people who have more resource (land, cash).

The areas also faced invasions from the attached cities to which they responded well. Nevertheless, the economic progress parameters were taken into consideration to the most understood as good welfare conditions, better life for coming generation. Access to education thus changed the needs in the place and brought into the emergence of new economic activities. Aligning to the tradition, culture and dignity, new type of entrepreneurs emerged in the societies establishing the importance of savings and investments and then mobilizing the savings to nullify the risks in pursuit of profit. The organizations like cooperatives emerge in the society which make the investment works more social and easy.

### ***Economy on Newari Practices***

Sankhu and Khokana are rich in Newari culture and traditions. In both places, the dominance is of Newars which makes it popular destination for jatras. There is a Guthi system at both places, which is a social organization that maintains the socio-economic order of Newar society. The Guthis comprise of the members nominated historically to lead and initiate the festivals and jatras. During these jatras, almost all the people prepare different foods and drinks in their houses which in itself is a big market for the residents. They prepare various foods and drinks in the jatras and they carry out a big Bhoj in the place locally which is why many people also get seasonal engagements. The money circulated in the local place actually benefits for rest of all the period during the year.

### ***Khokana***

The community is known for its Chaityas, Vihars, Dhunge dharas, Paatis, etc. Besides, the community predominantly took over agriculture for livelihood, they usually went for the cash crops. Oil spinning is one of the oldest occupation in Khokana and it has typically been practiced in the form of cooperatives too. The concept of cooperatives worked so much for the community there as they took quite efficient time to

implement the same. Besides the oil spinning in the traditional fashion to the modern fashion now, the turn of the mill operators come clockwise.

### **Box 1 Gabu JaaySha Oil Mill: An Exemplary Cooperative Model in Khokana**

*As per our group discussion with the participants in Khokana, people were lacking resources but were excited to talk about their local economic activities. Being an agrarian economy, they are very proud of their major product, mustard oil. Due to their ancient strategy implementation in the form of cooperatives, they have excessive amount of mustard oil produced and even in the off seasons they have sufficient storage of the same. It has been a fallacy that cooperatives as a concept came very late because that product has been in existence since several generations now. As per one of the respondent there, the mustard oil mill has been a successful encouragement for them. It is high time they develop a concept to act on something new that is required for the development of the cooperative. Though, people are aware about the operation, management and distribution of product locally, their lack of reach outside the locality has challenged the overall development of the VDC. The primary intervention required is to educate them the importance of their product and to instill them with modern marketing skills which will foster the growth.*



### **Saankhu**

As mentioned earlier, the community lies in the lap of the pleasant hills. The settlement is very close to the religious places like Bajrayogini and Saalinadi. Historically, Sankhu has been less dependent on agriculture. It comprises of retail shops and small business which has promoted the local economic development of the area. Corners of Sankhu are filled with small showrooms where traditional occupations are kept alive by present generation. Wood carving, thread weaving, carpet manufacturing, wage employment have been the

primary source of employment in Sankhu. It is also entry to the amazing youth destination called Jhule which brings in lots of people in the local community making local community products popular among people of other parts of the city.

**Box 2 Gearing up to preserve the “Spirit of Place”, Sankhu “A Living Heritage”**

*There was a big revolt when Sankhu was politically put into Kageshwari Manohara Municipality which later got placed in Shankharapur Municipality. Our focused group discussion in Sankhu started with the question – “What is your problem being in the Kageshwari Manohara Municipality”? The answer was amazingly unexpected. I remember one of the respondent Ms. Shrestha saying “We are predominantly Newar community, why would we mix with municipalities comprising Brahmins and Chhetris in majority”. It was surprising. We talk a lot about abolishment of racism and inclusive society and here I encountered a stone in my first bite. Thus, the exploration begun.*

*The statement seem racist at that instance but something else was unveiled later. The community wanted to preserve their legacy, they wanted to establish themselves as a historical settlement with a Newari identity but feared getting diluted with others’ influence. How has government decided to make it a Newari historical settlement then? The delighted faces answered – we do not have plastered faces of the house, we have brick-colored and designed houses with Newari architecture. Our heritage is all about crafted wooden windows and we are glad government is subsidizing us by 50% in the purchase of wood. We are proud to appreciate that we are contributing our own locality by maintaining our age old historical architecture and monuments.*



## Government infrastructural interventions

### Outer Ring Road

The Outer Ring Road (ORR) is a major construction plan of the GON which will transverse through all three districts of the Kathmandu Valley, will be 72 kilometers long, and it will link the traditional settlements and connect the radial roads in the periphery of the valley (The Himalayan Times, 2016).



**Figure 4 Land Pooling for Outer Ringroad**

Source: (Manandhar, 2017)

The diagram above shows how the ORR (orange line) will be aligned compared to the existing Ring Road (blue line). Although the ORR will not directly pass through the historical settlements of Sankhu and Khokana, it will definitely have impacts on them.

The first impact will be rise in property value; this will happen simply by the construction of the ORR and also because it will aid urbanization in the peripheral sections of the valley. The rise in property value may encourage residents of the historical settlements (both Sankhu and Khokana) to sell off their property and move somewhere else. Another possibility is that with easier access to transportation residents of the historical settlements could leave their traditional occupations and commute to inner cities for work; this could create a huge cultural loss in terms of lost expertise and culture.

### Fast Track and Tunnel Way

The Fast Track and Tunnel Way, officially known as the Kathmandu – Kulekhani – Hetauda Tunnel (KKHT) Highway, is 58 kilometers long and connects Balkhu, Kathmandu to Hetauda, Makawanpur and almost passes Khokana; this is shown in the figure below (Nepal Purwadhar Bikash Company Ltd, 2015):



**Figure 5 Fast Track Tunnel Way-Kulekhani Hetauda Highway**

Source: Nepal Purwadhar Bikash Company Ltd, 2015

The impact of highways on local communities is well documented with research going back decades; they improve access to other areas (which in turn may improve the economies of scale of local products by

making it cheaper to obtain products and services and expanding potential markets), they increase the price property value, they make it easier for other people to get there and they make urbanization easier.

The KKHT Highway could be a double edged sword for the historical settlements of Khokana. The positive impacts could come from dramatic increase in tourism that the highway could aid. Another benefit could be from improving access to markets of the local products (like Mustard oil which Khokana is famous for). If the local producers could tap into the new markets that the new highway will offer, they might be able to give continuity to their traditional occupations.

The negative impacts of the highway on the historical settlement would be the residents selling off their property and moving towards the center of the capital as property value rises as the highway is completed. The historical settlements could be converted into an industrial area or a modern residential area if enough of the locals sell off their property due to increase in prices. Another impact would be on the cultural heritages. If more and more people start their work in the city (due to easier commute provided by the highway) then festivals, guthis and rituals (such as Shikali Jatra, Rudrayani Jatra, Gunpunhi) could slowly become extinct, along with the traditional occupations (wood carving, stone masonry, oil making and so on) that the locals had been pursuing for centuries.

### **Mulpani Cricket Stadium**

The stadium that is being constructed in Mulpani will have a capacity of 30,000 people. Assuming that at least 50 games will be played annually at full capacity, 1,500,000 people will visit the stadium every year. This figure will impact the local economy in four specific ways: new businesses will emerge (examples are restaurants, bars, food stalls and so on), parking space would become scarce on game nights and people could start renting out their land as parking spaces, the number of public transport vehicles would increase (especially taxis) and the price of land will go up. These trends are documented in several researches (Coates & Humphreys, 1999; Baade & Dye, 1990; Miller, 2002; Melaniphy, 2009; Wilkins, 2016).

These positive impacts on the local economy could have several intended and unintended consequences in the historical settlements of Sankhu. As price of land and property rises, residents of the historical settlements may find it more economically sound to sell their property and move to inner cities; this migration not only makes the continuity of historical settlements difficult to ensure, it also implies that people will leave

their traditional occupations (like woodcarving or sculpturing) and historical way of life could eventually die out.

As more hotels and restaurants would be needed to cater to stadium visitors, the buildings in the historical settlement areas could eventually be replaced by concrete buildings. Another impact to consider here would be the impact on local culture as residents may find it more economically more beneficial to leave their traditional occupations and start working on the modern jobs that the stadium is sure to produce.

### **Analysis of the Post Disaster Recovery Framework (PDRF)**

The recovery vision of the Government of Nepal, on which the PDRF is based on, is “Establishment of well-planned, resilient settlements and a prosperous society.” Several guidelines follow to help achieve this vision; some of these guidelines directly or indirectly influence how historical settlements are to be reconstructed. One of the guidelines states that relocation of settlements should be completely avoided or kept to a minimum, while respecting local livelihood, culture and traditions. Other guidelines state that the reconstructions will be implemented in a decentralized manner that encourages the use of local materials, furnishings, knowledge, skills, labor and traditional architecture.

To achieve the vision, the PDRF outlines five strategic objectives. These objectives are guided by the policy objectives of National Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Policy; two of these policy objectives include to reconstruct, retrofit and restore partially and completely-damaged residential, community and government buildings and heritage sites, to make them disaster resistant using local technologies as needed, and to reconstruct damaged cities and ancient villages to their original form, while improving the resilience of the structures. These two policy objectives of the National Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Policy directly influence how historical settlements are to be reconstructed.

The five strategic objectives of the PDRF are:

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 environment 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 people's needs and to effectively recover from future disasters.

These strategic objectives state that restoring urban heritage settlements will be given priority by improving access to planning and building skills and by maximizing local initiative. Housing reconstruction will be accompanied by disaster-resistant reconstruction of physical and community infrastructure using sustainable and environment friendly technologies.

The reconstruction of resilient social and public infrastructure will entail focus on safe, durable, comfortable and cost-effective buildings. Emphasis will be placed on promoting local architecture, local knowledge and skills in building construction technology and on local construction materials, while encouraging the use of modern technology and new materials in building construction where it is feasible in terms of durability and cost-effectiveness. For government buildings and those of semi-government owned corporations, fixed shape, facade and structure as per agencies will be followed.

In order to safeguard the cultural continuity of the communities that have been affected by the earthquake, a comprehensive approach will be taken to ensure the rehabilitation of both classified monuments and traditional living environments.

The comprehensive approach will take into account the intangible dimensions of living heritage including the festivals and rituals, manifestations and traditional expressions that must continue being practiced.

The rehabilitation of heritage sites, historic settlements, monuments and traditional houses will ensure cultural continuity by maintaining the original design, materials, building technology and traditional craftsmanship. The implementation of the rehabilitation process will include the local stakeholders as far as possible; such inclusion is part of the healing process, which will take time. The reconstruction process will require specific arrangements for the identification, promotion and training of artisans as well as developing strategies for the procurement and production of traditional construction materials.

The strategic objectives are followed by the policy framework. The policy framework in the PDRF is guided heavily by the Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Policy, which was drafted in later 2015 and approved in February 2016. This framework prioritizes restoration and retrofitting of historical building and structures, encourages the use of local building materials and states that supporting owner-driven reconstruction will be the standard where the government will only be responsible for providing financial and technical assistance to the homeowners.

The policy framework is followed by the institutional framework, which lays down the mandate as well as roles and responsibilities of the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA). The NRA is mandated to reconstruct, retrofit and restore damaged infrastructure and houses and make them disaster resilient, build community resilience, develop opportunities for economic growth, undertake research and studies on the science of earthquakes and their impact and to identify appropriate sites to resettle displaced communities. The NRA, along with other implementing agencies, is responsible for identifying earthquake affected areas and reconstruction priorities over a five-year period.

The policy framework is followed by the implementation arrangements that state the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) will establish sub-regional offices that will be responsible for coordination between central authorities and local bodies, district coordination committees that will be responsible for coordination, evaluation and suggestion of course corrections, and resource centers that will be responsible for supporting communities to undertake their own reconstruction. The NRA and these three bodies will be responsible for entire recovery and reconstruction (including historical settlements) in the aftermath of the earthquake.

The final part of PDRF is financing and financial management for recovery and reconstruction. Historical settlements are not treated as a separate sector in the entire PDRF, so some areas must be treated as regular housing and others as culture heritage. The total financing required for the five years (2016 – 2020) for the cultural heritage is \$338 million and for housing is \$3,762 million. Therefore, part of financing required for reconstruction of historical settlements must come be allocated from the budget separated for cultural heritage and the other part must come from the funding for housing depending on specific destroyed areas of the settlements.

## **Analysis of the Request for the Master Plan Formulation for the Reconstruction of Sankhu**

The Sankha Reconstruction Society prepared an application for a master plan and how economic and technical resources could be mobilized for the reconstruction of Sankhu on 15th April 2016, after almost a year since the earthquake devastated the Sankharapura Municipality on 25th April 2015. 6,137 of the 9,000 households in this municipality were completely damaged whereas 963 were partially damaged. Sankhu is the main city of Sankharapura Municipality which has enormous historical, archaeological and religious significance. The municipality claims that 90% of Sankhu's households (1,235) were completely damaged whereas 450 were partially damaged. The Government of Nepal had taken no initiatives for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Sankhu at the time The Sankha Reconstruction Society submitted its application.

Sankhu has a unique combination of model houses of Newari Architecture, monuments, Newari culture and lifestyles. To reconstruct and conserve this historical settlement, Sankha Reconstruction Society's application for reconstruction and rehabilitation requests Sankharapur Municipality, the Government of Nepal and The Special Program of Honorable President to help out in certain ways, which have been listed below.

Policies, plans and resource mobilization to be done by Sankharapur Municipality

- Estimate the costs to fully/partially reconstruct houses and structures.
- A policy must be formulated only after consulting with the local people to reconstruct Sankhu in such a way as to retain its historical significance and monumental, cultural and archaeological values.
- Bylaws and designs must be prepared for the reconstruction of four storey houses of Newari design and structure retaining the original structure of Sankhu; this too needs to be done only after consulting with the local people and the municipality should also provide technical assistance for reconstruction.
- Only the minimum will be charged after proving discounts/concessions for people looking to get approval to reconstruct their houses.
- The municipality must provide construction materials (wood, gravel and sand) at subsidized rate and ban the export of these materials until local reconstructions end.

- The municipality should provide concessions for those building the houses with the old architectural design, windows and design, concessions in the property taxation along with the economic assistance.
- The municipality should also formulate the Settlement Development Plan which would allocate areas for housing, agriculture and business and would only approve construction of houses in allocated areas according to the plan.
- Policies, plans and resource mobilization to be done by the Government of Nepal
- GoN should formulate a Master Plan for reconstruction of Sankhu, which would ensure that historic, cultural, archaeological and unique significance of Sankhu would be retained.
- GoN should prioritize conservation, renovation and reconstruction of archaeological heritage and conserve settlement in Sankhu as “Conserved Cultural Heritage Area.”
- GoN should bring special program from the honorable President for bringing the reconstruction with the potential for developing socioeconomic as well as physical aspects.
- GoN should make financial and technical resources available at the national and international level with the joint effort of private areas along with the local organizations.

*Design of the Master Plan requested as a Special Program of the Honorable President for the reconstruction of Sankhu*

The building construction policy and design must be approved by the Sankharapur Municipality. The reconstruction would be guided by the meetings of residents, party members and municipality members and the design of the roads, courtyards, land and houses would be handed to the municipality.

The residents will be motivated to reconstruct their private houses in such a way that, front faces of buildings will exhibit Newari architecture; the residents will be provided with financial support for the materials required and financial assistance will be provided for reconstruction for households that are poor, or only have elderly or women members. The estimated budget for this is Rs. 2.4 billion (Rs. 240 crore).

With the aid of Department of Archaeology, resources will be collected and allocated from the Government of Nepal, UNESCO and other relevant national and international bodies for the following:

- Renovation and reconstruction of Vajrayogini Temple

- Renovation and reconstruction of Jyotilingeshowr Temple
- Renovation and conservation of four houses of Vajrayogini Temple
- Renovation of public party, well, spout
- Reconstruction of Madhavnarayan Temple
- Reconstruction of Basundhara Anganche

### **Analysis of the Khokana Master Plan**

The Khokana Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Committee created a proposal for Khokana Reconstruction and Rehabilitation with the vision of a smart Eco-city in the world with social, economic, political and environmentally rich and sustainable urban settlement with one of its kind culture and tourism destination attraction.

The earthquake of April 25 destroyed many parts of this village with 812 houses fully destroyed, 355 houses partially destroyed, 28 people injured and 9 people dead in the nine wards of the village.

The master plan emphasizes three aspects of reconstruction: the tangible cultural heritage, the intangible cultural heritage and the economic aspects.

For reconstruction of tangible heritage, the master plan emphasizes that buildings should be rebuilt in earthquake resistant fashion following the traditional Malla architecture; municipality code and policy should be made to support this. All the features that could be identified with Malla Architectural design such as open courtyard and clustered settlement should be continued. The preservation and promotion of these traditional house models should be subsidized. Finally, the front faces of all the concrete houses should be reconstructed following the traditional façade. The process of reconstruction and rehabilitation of Khokana should also immediately look into creating by-laws and land use zoning so that there isn't heavy migration into Khokana and traditional agricultural land would not be lost. The master plan specifically points out that the 844 damaged houses should be reconstructed in the typical Newari settlement style, a plan should be made for a ring-road that surrounds the village in concentric circles, temples and public places should be

restored and rebuilt, water ponds, sprouts and other natural resources too should be restored and rebuilt, and land use zoning should be done for agriculture and cottage industry.

Concerning intangible cultural heritage, the master plan emphasizes festivals, jattras, Guthis and rituals. There are at least 32 different jattras commemorated in Khokana throughout the year and the residents have festivals for every occasion in every season. The earthquake has put the continuity of these traditions in jeopardy by destroying the tangible heritage necessary to observe these rituals. The reconstruction and rehabilitation of Khokana should ensure that these intangibles are also preserved and continued.

The reconstruction and rehabilitation of Khokana will also ensure that the village's economy is improved; for this, the master plan has laid down short term and long term activities that should be carried out. The activities included for the short run are regeneration of oil mills (that produce the famous mustard oil of Khokana), creation of farmers market and agriculture zones, promotion of cash crops, promoting Khokana as a tourist destination and also promoting its local food, mapping human resources and conducting training for local up-lift and rebuilding, conducting heritage awareness program (focusing on preservation and promotion), and constructing community building for home stays. Under the long term activities for economic growth, tourist accommodation plans have to be made, partnerships with schools and colleges around the globe have to be made, a museum has to be constructed, archaeological investigations need to be carried out to explore sites of archaeological importance, and tourist information center should be constructed.

## CHAPTER-IV CONCLUSIONS AND WAY FORWARD

### Conclusions

Historical settlements, though, pronounced and told to be very important and ideal for the economic development of the country, not just from the touristic revenue point of view but also from the aesthetic and inter-generational point. This would also not be true to say that Government of Nepal (GoN) didn't pay attention or played any role in establishment and promotion of historical settlements, nevertheless, GoN seems biased executing its policies. This also might be a tradeoff though where the government thinks it would re-establish the more popular historical settlements like Kathmandu Durbar Square, Patan Durbar Square and Bhaktapur Durbar Square before other historical settlements in the suburbs of Kathmandu. But, this led to a major confusion. The historical settlements in the suburbs also had to take care of their lives, families and by when would they wait for the GoN to take action. They started working on their livelihood infrastructures way before the plans of the GoN approached for execution. The government was late to come up with reconstruction and rehabilitation policies.

For the two places (Saankhu and Khokana), GoN finally came up with a policy where they had specific guidelines for the face of the house, window of the house and Newari essence but by the time the policy was executable, more than a year had passed and many people had already erected a structure of their houses. Now, what would the government or locals do? Revoking the decision from any side becomes tougher than anything. It is undoubtedly very hard to be reluctant to the modernization and concretization that is happening in your surrounding and both of these places faced the challenge. The major impacts have arisen from the government projects like Fast Track Road, Mulpani Cricket Stadium and Outer Ring Road. The trade-offs are so eminent that people have to choose between national development and preservation of cultural beauty and the choice has been tough.

The specific conclusions for the research objectives are:

- a. Natural Calamity (Relief Act) 1982 was reviewed which suggested 29 activities for the risk reduction and mitigation but execution and monitoring of such execution has not been satisfactory. The indicators need to be measurable and then aligned to the local/national resources. National Strategy

for Disaster Risk Management was reviewed and the status was not different. The awareness has not reached to people and for those where the reach has been possible, the social friction has been dominant. Post Disaster Recovery Framework has not been successful to internalize the financial and social requirements of the locals either. Very lately came the National Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Policy which speaks about the restoration of the cultural heritages, houses but this has also been questioned on its efficiency based on the time it has taken for its policy execution.

- b. The sheer gap between the nationally designed policies and the policy demand of the commoners is the time, nothing else. How can a government authority assume its people to keep waiting for the fulfillment of their basic needs like food and shelter? Shelter was the dire need and unquestionably, GoN took very long to address the commoners. Government definitely has a provision for the restoration of the historical settlements like – provision of central government to provide Rs. 300,000; provision of local government to provide Rs. 50,000; since the windows were mandated to be of wood, a flat discount of 50% on woods purchased from Department of Forests and a refundable deposit during the clearance of house floor plan from the authority. Besides these, the locals in Sankhu have established a pool fund which provides additional of Rs. 100,000. But, the only problem is that the execution took more than a year and half. A very interesting incidence is that the Department of Archaeology has now agreed to re-establish temples and monuments within next 5 years.
- c. The way forward has been written in a separate section later.

## **Way Forward**

From the above-mentioned conclusions, it is pretty clear that further strong researches on policy development for the historical settlements are necessary in the country. It is a real pity not being able to internalize (after identification) the contribution of historical settlements to better local economic performance. Our study thus reveals that some of the socio-economic linkages are causal which lead to preceded changes in expected local economic development.

To supplement the agenda for research, international students, including the foreign tourists we receive have a pleasant perception for the historical settlements here. Undoubtedly, the patterns and settlements can be further beautified. At present, the encouragement is on a small scale just trying to fulfill the obligation requirements. It is important that these initiatives are planned and phased in a way that facilitates the longer-term vision of economic empowerment.

Some of the areas where further researches could be carried out are:

- I. Identification, measurement and execution of social capital generated by the historical settlements for the overall economic development.
- II. Continued review and further investigation of whether historical settlements and social capital can be deliberately created—or their development accelerated—by public policy
- III. Further development of the concept and theory for the escalation of historical settlements

Unfortunately, in most of these areas, research has just begun but the questions are on its sustainability. The idea of promoting more historical settlements needs to be captured not only in the imagination of politicians and public servants but academics and media should equally be interested which will ultimately create significant impetus for future research and fact-based policy development.

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## Annexes

### Annex I – KII Participants

SANKHU			KHOKANA	
S.No	Name	Address	Name	Address
1	Krishna Man Singh	Sankharapur 7	Narottam Shrestha	Karyabinayak 6
2	Anil Singh	Sankharapur 6	Apsara Dangol	Karyabinayak 7
3	Punam Singh	Sankharapur 7	Dharma Nath Dangol	Karyabinayak 6
4	Ram Lal Singh	Sankharapur 6	Bekha Ratna Dangol	Karyabinayak 8
5	Ritesh Shrestha	Sankharapur 6	PurnaShova Maharjan	Karyabinayak 7
6	Shreejan Shrestha	Sankharapur 7	Surendra Dangol	Karyabinayak 6
7	L.P Mali	Sankharapur 7	Jibendra Shahi	Karyabinayak 6
8	Rajayak Lal Singh	Sankharapur 7	Sabita Dangol	Karyabinayak 6
9	Tirtha Shrestha	Sankharapur6	Gyanendra Maharjan	Karyabinayak 7
10	Chanda Shrestha	Sankharapur7	Laxmi Prasad Dangol	Karyabinayak 7
11	Reshma Shrestha	Sankharapur6	SanuMaya Dangol	Karyabinayak 8
12	Prabin Shrestha	Sankharapur7	Krishna Gopal Maharjan	Karyabinayak 8
13	Ram Shrestha	Sankharapur 6	Ganga Lal Dangol	Karyabinayak 8
14	Shree Prasad Singh	Sankharapur 6	Man Ram Maharjan	Karyabinayak 7
15	Devendra Shrestha	Sankharapur7	Sagar Dangol	Karyabinayak 9
16	Pravin Shrestha	Sankharapur 6	Narottam Shrestha	Karyabinayak 9

## Annex II- FGD Participants

1.	Mr. Nabin Dangol, <b>Founder</b> , <i>Khokana Reconstruction Committee</i>
2.	Mr. Gyan Bir Singh, <b>Politician</b> , <i>Khokana</i>
3.	Mr. Shyam Maharjan, <b>General Secretary</b> , <i>Khokana Reconstruction Committee</i>
4.	Mr. Gyan Bhakta Dangol, <b>Secretary</b> , <i>Khokana Reconstruction Committee</i>
5.	Mr. Buddhi Krishna Dangol, <b>General Member</b> , <i>Khokana Reconstruction Committee</i>
6.	Mr. Bekha Maharjan, <b>Treasurer</b> , <i>Khokana Reconstruction Committee</i>
7.	Mr. Gyan Maharjan, <b>Resident</b> , <i>Khokana</i>
8.	Mr. Suresh Pradhan, <b>Founder</b> , <i>Sankhu Reconstruction Society</i>
9.	Mr. Radhakrishna Shrestha, <b>Ward Secretary</b> , <i>Shankharapur Municipality-6</i>
10.	Mr. Pawan Lal Shrestha, <b>Chief Editor</b> , <i>Lawanya Sandesh Weekly</i>
11.	Ms. Pabitra Shrestha, <b>Teacher</b> , <i>Local Community</i>
12.	Ms. Surkra Laxmi Shrestha, <b>Deputy Mayor</b> , <i>Shankharapur Municipality</i>

### Annex III- Photographic Documentation



Earthquake damage in Sankhu



Dhunge dhara (water spout) post-earthquake in Sankhu



Reconstruction of temple in Sankhu by Department of Archaeology



Front face building in Sankhu exhibiting Newari architecture



Khokana- Unfazed Heritage depicting Traditional Newari Architecture, TA GUTHI



Earthquake damage in Khokana



Ongoing Reconstruction of Bajabajaunepati in Khokana



Gabu Jaaysha-Community run Oil Mill in Khokana