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Resilient Resettlement Strategies for Marginalized Population:
A case of Sampanna Basti, Biratnagar 12

by

Shirish Maharjan

A THESIS

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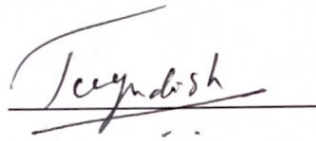


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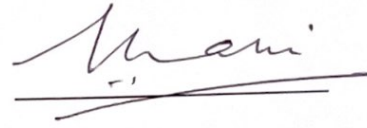


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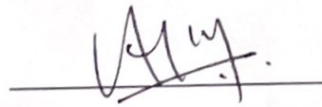


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ABSTRACT

Nepal, characterized by its diverse ethnicity, encompasses numerous marginalized groups that struggle with challenges like inadequate land ownership and limited access to essential services. These disadvantaged communities are the ones that are most affected during disasters. Nepal has initiated several resettlement initiatives for affected communities to deal the issues of poverty, landlessness, and enhance living standards. However, these projects often tend to neglect the elements of resilience and sustainability, resulting in unsuccessful resettlements. Therefore, it is essential to integrate resilience into the planning process right from the start, ensuring the effectiveness and success of resettlement.

This study explores resettlement initiative as applied to marginalized populations, focusing on the case of Sampanna Basti in Biratnagar-12. Field observation, key-informant interview, questionnaire survey has been done to understand the approach of resettlement and its challenges. It studies the real ground issues from the 'Sampanna Basti' resettlement project in Biratnagar-12, initiated by collaboration of local bodies, NGOs and INGOs, by considering factors of resilience such as community engagement, socio-economic considerations, infrastructure development, institutional support, and disaster risk reduction measures. The study also covers the understanding of previous settlement of Malhanwa and Bakhri of Biratnagar-12 to understand the originality, sociocultural and economic perspective of the resettled population. By analyzing the experiences and outcomes of this specific case, the research contributes to a deeper understanding of how different components of resilience are represented in the resettlement strategy. Additionally, it aids in crafting a resilient resettlement approach centered on the resilience and sustainability of resettled communities.

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CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

The process of urbanization has always come at a price. As cities have progressed to be larger and more complex growth engines, they have become vulnerable and susceptible to disasters, with climate change further exacerbating the current situation (Kumar S & C.A, 2022). Haphazard development processes, including environmental mismanagement, rapid demographic changes, haphazard economic growth, urbanization in hazardous areas, inadequate governance, and limited livelihood opportunities, especially for marginalized populations, contribute to heightened exposure and vulnerability (IPCC, 2012). The occurrence of flooding has increased in the year 2022 compared to the annual average of 2002-2021. Of all natural disasters, floods have affected the greatest number of people (CRED, 2022). The World Bank estimates that by 2050 more than 140 million people could face displacement from the unfolding climate crisis and disasters (Yarina & Wescoat, 2023). Nepal, the country of diverse topography and varying climate has over 80% of population at risk of flooding, landslides, droughts, and extremely high temperatures. The construction of large-scale hydropower plants in Nepal, some of which are in highly unstable areas, poses another concern. In order to address these issues, communities in the affected areas are displaced and relocated, which helps to assure their safety and well-being. (Rieger, 2021). And accordingly, there have been regulations and practices around the world in the area of resettlement of vulnerable households. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) formulated the Disaster Risk Reduction National Policy 2075, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act, 074 and Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Regulation, 2076. MoHA also formulated the Disaster Risk Reduction National Strategic Plan of Action (2018- 2030). The Land Use Policy, 2075 intends to achieve sustainable land management for developed and prosperous life. Moreover, different ministries have developed guidelines and resettlement frameworks targeting specific groups of population. After the earthquake of 2072 in Nepal, integrated settlements were built with the goal of ensuring future earthquake safety. These communities were created to provide easy access to necessities including water, power, roads, healthcare, and education. In 19 districts, the government constructed integrated

model towns with the help of the NRA. Based on different studies, people who were expected to benefit from these housing units, however, still lack homes due to a number of instances where they were not useable. The empty homes in the new community show how much effort have been put into the process yet has been declared ineffective (Nagendra Upadhyaya, 2022). There are resettlement practices led by different approaches by different agencies leading to different results. However, there still arises question on how to make planned resettlement people friendly that increases acceptability of people. The World Bank's Handbook of Reconstruction after Natural Disasters (Barenstein et al., n.d.) further examined some of the reasons why relocation is often unsuccessful and noted factors such as the inadequacy of new sites and socially inappropriate settlement layouts. In order to increase the resilience and long-term well-being of the affected people, safer living conditions, better infrastructure, and less exposure to dangers are required. In this scenario, strengthening community resilience and putting appropriate resettlement policies into practice become essential for helping these communities' recovery and sustainable development. (Norris et al., 2008)

Community resilience can be defined as “the ability of a community to prepare and plan for, absorb, recover from, and more successfully adapt to actual or potential adverse events in a timely and efficient manner including the restoration and improvement of basic functions and structures”(Cutter et al., 2014). Studying resilience helps to understand the vulnerability of these settlements and enable them to increase their capacity to bounce back (Kumar S & C.A, 2022). It is essential to identify the key elements that enhance community resilience and empower vulnerable communities to continue their livelihoods. The prospect of resilience should begin from existing policies and analyzing the existing policies in terms of resilience will help recognize areas for improvement and ensure that resettlement strategies are sustainable and capable of withstanding future uncertainties (Luthar & Cicchetti, 2000).

Millennium Development Goals Indicators (2015) reports that 54.3% of the urban dwellers live in slum-like conditions in Nepal (UNSD, 2020). In case of Nepal, the ethnic communities like Musahar, Urau, Muslims, etc, known as marginalized communities are economically, and socially marginalized. In response to these challenges, the government

of Nepal has implemented resettlement strategies aimed at improving the living conditions of marginalized populations.

The case area of Sampanna Basti in Biratnagar-12, is one of such initiatives designed in joint cooperation of Biratnagar Metropolitan with development partners. It was intended to resettle squatter settlements, primarily inhabited by marginalized people living along Bakhari and Malhanwa in Biratnagar. Disasters, especially flooding, are common in Biratnagar, affecting both the local ecology and the livelihoods of its citizens. The Keshalya River floods the land around these places every year. People stay in the same high-risk places for flooding despite the repeated dangers. The resettlement at Sampanna Basti is an initiative to relocate those marginalized people living in flood prone, which has been designed to provide housing and land to the landless marginalized community. This study seeks to conduct evidence-based understanding of the marginalized community in real ground and explore it from resilience perspective. It is thus crucial to assess and analyze the effectiveness of these initiatives in terms of resilience, considering the unique needs and vulnerabilities of the targeted communities.

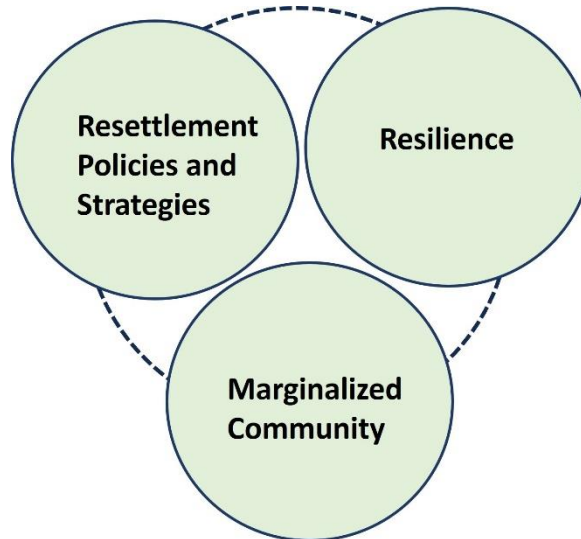


Figure 1: Resilient Resettlement Strategy for Vulnerable Population (Source: Author)

1.2 RATIONALE OF RESEARCH

NEED

Resilience is crucial for the long-term success and sustainability of resettlement initiatives. Analyzing the existing policies in terms of resilience will help identify areas for improvement and ensure that resettlement strategies are sustainable and capable of withstanding future uncertainties (Luthar & Cicchetti, 2000). Resettlement initiatives should align with the principles of sustainable development, ensuring social equity, environmental conservation, and economic viability. Analyzing the policies in terms of resilience will contribute to the creation of sustainable resettlement strategies that balance the interests of vulnerable populations and the broader community. As vulnerable populations, such as marginalized communities and individuals face significant challenges during the resettlement process. It is essential to address their vulnerabilities and ensure that resettlement policies and strategies are designed to support their specific needs. Traditionally, housing efforts have predominantly focused on considering it as a physical asset. However, adopting a resilience perspective reveals that housing encompasses far more than mere physical structures. In addition to providing physical security, housing should also ensure social and economic security for individuals and communities.

Community resilience plays a vital role in the recovery and long-term well-being of vulnerable populations (Norris et al., 2008). However, there is a limited understanding of the factors that contribute to community resilience and how it can play crucial role in resettled settings for sustainability. There is a need to evaluate the existing strategies, their strengths, weaknesses, and their alignment with the needs and aspirations of the vulnerable population groups. The existing literature lacks an in-depth examination of the factors that contribute to community resilience among vulnerable populations in the resettlement process. It is essential to identify the key elements that enhance community resilience and empower vulnerable communities to continue their livelihoods.

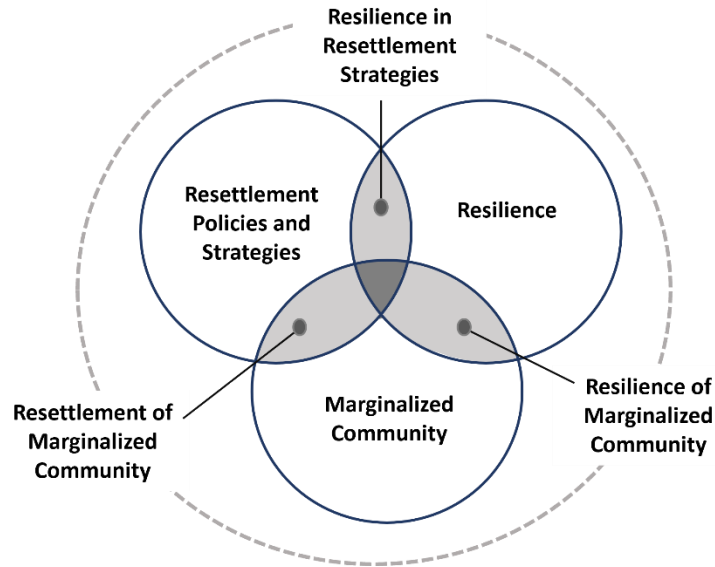


Figure 2: Connecting the gaps: Resettlement Strategy, Vulnerable community and Resilience (Source: Author)

The research topic aims to analyze the resettlement policies in terms of resilience and recommend resilient strategies with focus on vulnerable populations, by analyzing the specific case of Biratnagar.

This research will explore social, economic, and environmental aspects of community resilience and provide insights into strategies that enable vulnerable communities to better cope with and recover from the impacts of disasters.

IMPORTANCE

The research contributes to the existing knowledge base in the fields of community resilience and resettlement strategies. It adds to the body of literature by providing a case study specific to Biratnagar which can serve as a reference for future research and studies in similar contexts. The findings and analysis will contribute to theoretical advancements and practical interventions in understanding and addressing the challenges faced by vulnerable populations during resettlement. The research can assist practitioners, policymakers, and organizations in making informed decisions and allocating resources effectively. The research outcomes will have practical implications for policymakers, disaster management agencies, and practitioners. The insights gained from this study will

help shape evidence-based policies and practices that can effectively support individuals and communities living with disasters.

1.3 PROBLEM STATEMENT

After the 2072 earthquake in Nepal, integrated settlements were constructed as replacements for the damaged old settlements, with a focus on providing safety against future earthquakes. These settlements were designed to offer convenient access to essential amenities like water, electricity, roads, education, and healthcare. The government, along with the assistance of the NRA, built integrated model settlements in 19 districts. However, as per different news reports, there are numerous cases that such housing units were not usable, and the people who were supposed to benefit from them still have no houses to live in. Despite the efforts put into the settlement development program, the 79 settlements in 22 districts appear appealing from the outside but have failed to attract people due to the lack of livelihood opportunities.

Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC) initiated the People's Housing Program (Janata Awas) in 2009 to provide low-cost housing to the marginalized and poor Dalit and Muslim families. The People's Housing Program offers a secure living environment, comprising two rooms and a verandah. However, the model housing design fails to cater to the cultural needs and preferences of various ethnic groups. Indeed, resettlement process is a common response to various socio-economic and environmental challenges faced by vulnerable populations. It is essential to assess the existing settlement policies to determine their effectiveness in promoting resilience and addressing the needs of vulnerable populations (Luthar & Cicchetti, 2000). The problem arises from the lack of a comprehensive understanding of how resettlement policies address resilience and cater to the specific vulnerabilities of the target populations. The current policies may not adequately consider the dynamic nature of risks, socio-economic disparities, and the unique challenges faced by vulnerable groups during the resettlement process. This knowledge gap hinders the development of effective strategies that can enhance the resilience of resettlement initiatives. There is a lack of comprehensive understanding regarding the factors that contribute to effective resettlement strategies and

the ways in which they can contribute marginalized people, especially in context of developing countries.

In Biratnagar and other regions of Nepal, there are doubts about the efficacy of such resettlement strategies (Shrestha & Conway, n.d.). Resettlement strategies are frequently put into place to give displaced people new places to live, a means of subsistence, and support services. The degree to which these initiatives are effective in producing the desired results is still unknown, though. To determine the advantages, disadvantages, and potential areas for development of current resettlement programs, an assessment of their influence and efficacy is required. There is still a lack of research on the efficacy and effects of different resettlement tactics on the empowerment and well-being of marginalized communities.

Moreover, the absence of resilient strategies may lead to negative outcomes, such as increased vulnerability, social inequities, and unsustainable development. Without a thorough analysis of the existing policies and identification of gaps, there is a risk of perpetuating the cycle of vulnerability and hindering the long-term well-being of resettled populations.

The research gap lies in the scarcity of studies that focus on the specific context of Sampanna Basti and its vulnerable populations. Understanding the local dynamics, challenges, and opportunities is crucial for tailoring appropriate resettlement strategies that address the unique needs of the community. By conducting in-depth research and generating policy insights, this study seeks to contribute to the development of evidence-based policies, practices, and interventions that prioritize the well-being and empowerment of the affected communities in Biratnagar and potentially inform similar contexts globally.

1.4 RESEARCH PURPOSE

The main objective of the research is mentioned below:

- To study the factors contributing to resilience in resettlement of marginalized communities and recommend resilient strategies focused on resettlement of a marginalized community

More precisely, the study aims at the following objectives:

- To examine the experiences and perspectives of marginalized populations in Sampanna Basti, Biratnagar-12
- To review the existing resettlement policies and their applicability to promote resilience and understand the condition of resettlement strategies at the ground level to cater to the marginalized populations
- To provide recommendations for improving the implementation of resilient resettlement taking into account the challenges of the marginalized population

1.5 VALIDITY OF RESEARCH/ TOPIC VALIDITY

The research is relevant given the increasing frequency and intensity of natural disasters worldwide which has caused displacement and relocation of community. Affected communities frequently choose to remain in the old community rather than relocate to the new one. In certain instances, displaced individuals have returned to their previous community since the new one is not sustainable. Resettlement attempts' general failure is a result of their lack of resilience. To increase resilience, for example, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) emphasizes the necessity of incorporating environmental issues into resettlement planning.

Hence, the research outlines the objective of examining resilient resettlement strategies for vulnerable populations. This objective gives the research a defined course and highlights the importance of comprehending and enhancing the resilience of resettlement strategies. Vulnerable populations are frequently included in resettlement initiatives; therefore, it is critical to comprehend how to create resilient methods for their long-term stability and well-being. The subject of the study has the ability to advance our understanding of resilient relocation tactics for communities that are at risk. The study's focus on a particular case study in Biratnagar-12 allows it to provide insights and recommendations that may be useful for comparable relocation attempts overseas as well as within the local context. The findings and recommendations will have practical implications for policymakers,

practitioners, and community stakeholders not only in Biratnagar but also in similar settings.

1.6 EXPECTED OUTPUTS

The study is expected to contribute to the academic understanding of the complex interplay between resettlement approaches and resilience of resettled marginalized community. The expected output includes an analysis of the social, economic, and environmental factors that enhance community resilience, providing insights into the strategies that can be adopted to strengthen resilience in similar contexts. The research seeks to evaluate the effectiveness of resettlement strategy implemented in Biratnagar for Sampanna Basti for marginalized populations. The expected output includes recommendations for improving their outcomes and addressing the specific needs of marginalized communities and includes insights into the social and economic empowerment of such communities, highlighting the strategies and interventions that contribute to their overall well-being. This understanding will help in designing targeted interventions and support systems that address the specific needs of the affected population. The expected output tends to generate a relationship between resettlement strategies, resilience and targeted population by comparing the existing practice

CHAPTER 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 RESETTLEMENT

Settlement, when used in the context of persons, families, groups or communities laying down roots in any particular place, can be defined intuitively and in experiential terms. In its simplest sense, it is the act of settling which in itself is the act of establishing oneself (individually or collectively) in a place. Experientially, it signifies creating the basis for a secure work and livelihood scheme (security includes life opportunities and security of place from outside attack or from floods, from eviction or landslides, etc. ‘Resettlement’ derives, as a term and concept, from the notion of ‘settlement’(Allan Lavell, 2021).

The human settlement comes in many forms and can be permanent and temporary, rural and urban, mobile and sedentary, disseminated and agglomerated. Settlements are therefore, given meaning by three interrelated concepts, namely, functions; population sustaining itself from functions and also morphology; the physical manifestation of the population sustaining itself from functions in a particular locale (Musvoto 2014). An understanding of the human settlement typology would be incomplete without a consideration of their geographic location and distribution. Settlements are defined by their relative location within and adjacent to urban cores and their economic divisions: whether located in the core of cities; on their fringe or periphery, or at some distance from cities (Kilian et al. 2005).

The dynamics of integrating resilience theory and practice into rural settlement planning and implications for sustainable development are little understood. Rural settlements are most closely and directly related to the local natural resources. The major function of the settlement and the occupation of majority of inhabitants are related to primary activities such as agriculture, animal husbandry, fishing, mining and forestry. This important distinction makes it clear that settlements are not just roads, houses and other infrastructure: they are also setting of social relationships. Development structures within the rural human settlement must be properly understood and the resolution of development issues must be addressed from a more macro perspective.

Resettlement can be defined as a process by which displaced people and communities are assisted to restore or improve their livelihoods at their places of resettlement (World Bank, n.d.). Resettlement has been a popular strategy by national governments and international development agencies, such as the World Bank, to promote local and national development. Apart from resettlement induced by infrastructure construction, natural resource extraction, resettlement to reduce poverty has been incorporated in national poverty reduction and food security programs in some countries, including China and Ethiopia (Yarina & Wescoat, 2023). These programs aim to move people and communities from resource-poor areas to locations with better livelihood opportunities and better public infrastructure. In the mean time, resettlement strategies, on the other hand, refer to the planned approaches and actions designed to ensure the successful resettlement of individuals or communities. These strategies outline the goals, methods, and principles that guide the entire resettlement process, from planning and preparation to implementation and monitoring.

According to (Danquah et al., 2014) in any post-disaster scenario there may be two types of resettlement namely, voluntary and involuntary executed in the form of either relocation or repopulation. In case of natural disasters like earthquake, resettlement decisions must be taken relatively quickly hence there is less time for community consultations as compared to the voluntary resettlement induced by recurring floods or erosion (Danquah et al., 2014).

2.1.1 Theories of Resettlement

Likewise, resettlement being the global issue, there have been resettlement efforts and practices around the world. Many scholars have derived their theories and models post the analysis of implications of resettlement in different contexts. As per Cernea's Impoverishments Risks and Reconstruction Model (IRR) people who have been resettled may encounter multiple issues of socio-economic and cultural difficulty both during and after their actual relocation. According to the model, the results of resettlement initiatives would not be positive unless these risks are reduced, if not completely avoided, by various implementing sectors. It suggests that resettled people could go through various socio-economic and cultural impoverishment risks during the physical transfer. It explains the

risks of people in terms of their joblessness, homelessness, landlessness, marginalization, food insecurity, loss of access to common property and social disarticulation (Cernea, n.d.). Similarly, De Wet's *Inadequate Inputs and Inherently Complex Approaches* argue that there are two major theories that can be used to explain why resettlement projects frequently fail. According to the inherently complex approach, the frequent failure of planned resettlement is primarily attributed to its special characteristics, which can impose changes in socioeconomic and political access to resources and accelerated socioeconomic changes that may be beyond people's capacity to cope with. According to De Wet, it is obvious to take open-endedness and flexibility into account in addition to technical and economic issues in order to handle the complexity of resettlement programs in nature. These models reflect the importance of sustainability and resilience in the resettlement programs that help people centric planning approaches and at the same time, assists coping with disturbances created by resettlement.

Further examining some of the causes of why relocation is frequently ineffective, the World Bank's *Handbook of Reconstruction after Natural* identified elements such the inadequateness of new sites and socially incorrect settlement design (Barenstein et al., n.d.). To assist the rehabilitation and sustainable development of these populations in such a setting, it becomes essential to ensure community resilience and undertake successful relocation initiatives (Norris et al., 2008).

2.1.2 History of Resettlement in Nepal

Nepal is thought to have been primarily populated by Mongoloid tribes from the Tibetan region and Indo-aryan groups from northern India over many generations. The roughness of the Nepalese hills protected them from any continuous or unified invasion of India by Muslims. Because of the malarial climate prevalent in the region, several tiny population centers thrived on the rich soils in the central and eastern Terai. Because of the growing population in the Hills following Nepal's unification in 1769, tax loads in the Hills grew. The government also aimed to entice people to the Terai from India and the Hills. Despite government programs and incentives, it was mainly unsuccessful (Ojha, 1983).

The government began a number of direct and indirect measures for the development of Terai Lands, as well as settlement policies. Birta and Jagir tenures were developed for the

development of waste and virgin lands, respectively. Waste lands were freely allocated to anyone who agreed to reclaim them for settlement, and tax breaks were offered for the first four to ten years. An important policy was to contract out relatively substantial parts of such lands to individuals with considerable finances for fostering settlements.

From 1816 until 1950, settlement programs included indirect measures such as tax exemption, amnesty for runaway slaves, debtors, and criminals, and exemption from obligatory labor obligations. Surkhet and Morang). One such example is the resettlement of bandits in Sunsari, Jhumka. Similarly, the government took an important step in the 1920s to promote systematic land resettlement in the Rapti Valley and Morang area, and this endeavor shared many characteristics with present land settlement schemes in Nepal. The Terai's tropical environment and Malaria pandemic are seen as major deterrents to settlement. However, rural migration to Assam and northeast provinces in India, both of which have malarial climates, posed the question of why Nepalese migrated to these locations in India. The only logical reason is that various opportunities existed outside of the country.

Accordingly, Nepal underwent a dramatic change after democracy. The role of government in the national development and responsibility towards people became more important. Jagir tenure was abolished in 1951 substituted by cash payments to the government employees. At the same time, several projects for economic development were initiated mostly with foreign aid. The government recognized potential of agricultural development in Terai and for providing land to landless Hill people. Development projects like Rapti Valley Development Project and Malaria Eradication helped in resettlement of landless in Rapti. Consequently, large stream of migrants from Hills started to Rapti resettlement area and other nearby areas. Accordingly, the subsequent response of the government was to explore the possibility of undertaking more such resettlement projects for accommodating disaster victims and landless peasants. After the preliminary surveys of Terai, five areas in Nawalparasi, Banke, Bardiya, Kailali and Kanchanpur were identified as suitable locations. Nepal Punarvas Company was established in 1964 as a government-owned but autonomous institution to plan and implement resettlement programs (Ojha, 1983).

Planned resettlement started in Nepal in 1954, when affected families after the great monsoon flood were resettled in Chitwan Valley under the Rapti Valley Development Programme (Dixit 1994:76). Starting in the 1960s, resettlement activities were administered by the Nepal Resettlement Department and the Nepal Resettlement Company. Following various reorganizations of the resettlement agencies throughout the years, the Resettlement Company was eventually dissolved in 1988, while the Resettlement Department was retained under the Ministry of Housing and Physical Planning (Fast, 2015). In the following decades, as Nepal pursued economic development and infrastructure projects, resettlement became a component of large-scale development initiatives. Projects like hydropower plants, road construction, and urban expansion sometimes required the displacement of communities. Resettlement efforts were meant to compensate affected communities and ensure their livelihoods were not severely impacted.

Likewise, Conservation-related resettlement programs have been judged to be largely difficult. There are examples of resettlement from Rara National Park to Bardiya. Likewise, The Padampur Resettlement was a government-led initiative to relocate the residents of the village of Padampur, located within the Royal Chitwan National Park in Nepal, to a new site outside the park. The resettlement was initiated in 1995 and took nine years to complete due to political instability and frequent government changes. The resettlement was initiated due to the residents' fear of losing their highly valued agricultural production to each year's monsoon flood. The Padampur Resettlement Commission was formed with local people as a majority, and the new village has telephone and electricity facilities, along with a health post, a post office, and a high school. The major economic activity in Padampur is agricultural production, with dominant crops being rice, maize, and mustard (Dhakal, 2011).

Moreover, Nepal's internal conflict from the mid-1990s to the mid-2000s led to displacement of communities due to security concerns and political upheaval. After the conflict, some efforts were made to reintegrate and resettle displaced individuals and families. In recent years, Nepal has seen various resettlement programs aimed at addressing poverty, landlessness, and improving living conditions. The examples are Koshi Housing Project, Kirtipur housing Project, etc. These initiatives often target

marginalized and vulnerable communities, and those living in hazardous areas, providing them with access to land, housing, and basic services.

Resettlement Strategies adopted in Nepal

However, although many resettlements were visualized as important means for reducing population pressure, the concept was not backed up by appropriate plans in practice such that actual resettlement estimates were very inadequate than targets. The resettlement programs have been expanded in fifth plan because of financial assistance available from UN.

Land allotments and Land tenure ships

Land-based strategies may included provision of replacement land, ensuring greater security of tenure, and upgrading livelihoods of people without legal land titles. Land allotment ceiling was set at 4 bighas (2.42 ha.) per family which was reduced to 3 bighas and again to 1.5 bighas in 1973. Lands are to be cultivated by the settlers through their own labour and full title is to be granted only after ten years, when project supervision is to be withdrawn. Holdings can be alienated through sale only after this period. Even then, any purchasers must continue to cultivate it themselves. Settlers are exempt from any land tax for the first four years (Ojha, 1983).

Food for work Approach

Food for work programs are indeed a strategy used in Nepal to improve food security and the ability of vulnerable communities to prepare for and respond to sudden shocks and natural disasters. This approach is intended help to ensure that displaced individuals and families have access to necessary resources while also contributing to the development of their new communities. Nepal has worked with different international agencies to resilience-focused development activities in communities with high poverty and malnutrition rates. These activities improve the status of vulnerable households and increase the capacity of communities to prevent, mitigate, adapt to, and recover from shocks or natural disasters. For example, USAID has partnered with different NGOs across the country for this purpose (USAID, 2019).

Livelihood restoration

The initial Malaria Eradication program during resettlement from the Hills to the Terai aimed to modernize agriculture practices in Nepal, ultimately leading to improved livelihoods. This shift wasn't just about relocation but also focused on creating sustainable agricultural methods. Similarly, in involuntary resettlements of internally displaced populations, efforts were made to offer employment opportunities, a commitment reflected in existing acts and policies. Presently, numerous agency-driven resettlement projects involve NGOs, collaborating to address this objective of providing sustainable employment and livelihoods in resettled areas. These initiatives underscore the importance of not only relocating communities but also ensuring their economic stability and sustainable living conditions.

2.2 RESILIENCE

In general, the term resilience often refers to the capacity of systems, including individuals, to effectively respond and adapt to changing circumstances. It involves the development of skills, capacities, behaviors, and actions that enable individuals and systems to cope with and overcome adversity. Resilience can be

described as a dynamic process that involves adaptation before, during, and after an adverse event (IFRC Framework for Community Resilience). Resilience is the ability of a system, community, or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate to, and recover from the effects of a hazard promptly and efficiently by preserving and restoring essential basic structures (UNISDR 2011).

While talking about resilience, we need to understand the concept of risk. Risk can be defined as the probability of anything happening that may have an impact. In more specific terms of disaster, the risk is used to describe the likelihood of harmful consequences arising from the interaction of hazards, communities, and the environment.

The approach: The risk triangle
(D. Crichton, 1999; Kron, 2002)



Figure 3: Risk Triangle (Crichton 1999; Kron, 2002)

2.2.1 Resilience in the Context of International Level

Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015

The objectives of HFA encompass two key goals: the reduction of vulnerabilities and mitigation of hazards. HFA prioritizes encouraging community engagement in disaster risk reduction (DRR) efforts in addition to risk reduction. From HFA's point of view, community involvement can be made easier by putting certain policies into place, building networks, managing volunteer resources strategically, assigning roles and responsibilities, and providing the required authority and resources (UNISDR, 2005). These guidelines emphasize how crucial it is for Nepal to have a thorough Community Resilience Framework. A structure like this would help communities become more resilient to disasters and improve cooperation between different institutions. By working together, these efforts contribute to the broader objective of creating resilient communities capable of effectively responding to and recovering from these challenging events.

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (SFDRR) was adopted by United Nation Member States on 18 March 2015 at the Third UN World Conference in Sendai, Japan. It attracted a high level of political interest, which can be partly explained by the current converging dynamic between DRR, the Sustainable Development Goals and Climate Change issues (UNISDR, 2015). SFDRR has more specific goals to be met in its DRR initiatives, one of which is community involvement in DRR. This framework aims to achieve disaster risk reduction (DRR) and develop disaster resilience by offering feedback to the community (Sulaiman et al., 2019).

2.2.2 Policy Review:

Based on Hyogo Framework, Nepal embraced the concept of resilience within the framework of disaster risk reduction and management. This was a big change from before when the main focus was on helping during emergencies, like in the Natural Calamity Relief Act of 1982. The National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management (2009) was an early document that aimed to establish disaster-resilient communities. However, the strategies and initiatives largely focus on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management

(DRRM). The review of other policy documents with their parameters of resilience and sustainability of people and settlement are mentioned below:

Right to Housing Act

It basically aims to make proper arrangement for a safer housing facility to homeless Nepali citizens. It is oriented towards an ownership-based model. It also includes rental housing with a glaring gap of absence of required provision.

Resilience and sustainability concept incorporated:

- People who do not have a family home or plot of land are given housing amenities under Section 7. Housing needs to be considered in terms of aspects like habitability, service availability, material availability, facilities, and infrastructure in order to be made inexpensive.,
- Accessibility, Location & Cultural Adequacy (Act, 2018). Although this legislation does not specifically mandate how to prevent homelessness, it can address the root cause in order to properly analyze circumstances and assign duties. The legislation should be amended to address the issue of homelessness by establishing mandatory duties for all levels of government and outlining the steps that the state should take to solve housing needs.

15th National Plan

During the plan period, 505,424 private houses, 167 public buildings, 3,723 school buildings, 286 buildings of security agencies, 554 health centers, 668 archeological heritages, and 1,320 monasteries will have been reconstructed. Grants and soft loans will have been given to the families of the earthquake victims so they may build their homes; private homes and government buildings that were destroyed by the earthquake will have been restored, maintained, and updated.

Resilience and sustainability concept incorporated:

- Reconstruction and rehabilitation of earthquake-affected areas will have been finished using the most recent technologies; people of vulnerable settlements will have been relocated to suitable locations;
- Various income-generating programs will have been implemented for the livelihood of earthquake victims; and training programs will have been implemented to enhance knowledge, skills, and capacities of elected representatives and employees at the local level.

People's Housing Program

Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC) initiated the People's Housing Program (Janata Awas) in 2009 in three districts of Nepal namely Siraha, Saptari and Kapilbastu. Its main objective was to provide low-cost housing to the marginalized and poor Dalit and Muslim families. Subsequently, the Program was extended to 74 districts—adding vulnerable groups such as Chepang, Raute and Kusunda also as the targeted beneficiaries.

Resilience Perspective:

- provides safe living space consisting of two rooms and a verandah; The model housing design does not address the cultural requirements of different ethnic groups.
- conduct trainings on basic construction skills to the house owners. This provides them useful skills to seek further opportunities in construction sector, while enhancing sense of entitlement.

National Shelter Policy, 2012

The National Shelter Policy, 1996 was revised in 2012, to address the new challenges of slums, rental housing and housing for internally displaced and that of the Economically Weaker Section.

The policy's primary objectives are to raise the standard of living for Nepalese citizens by promoting affordable and environmentally friendly housing options, particularly for the impoverished and disadvantaged people.

- To guarantee that all inhabitants of Nepal have access to safe and affordable housing and encourage ecologically friendly sustainable housing methods.
- To enhance the sector's institutional capacity and proper governance for the supply of housing.
- To foster a climate that will encourage private sector involvement in the housing industry.
- To encourage the use of appropriate materials while building houses.

In order to achieve its objectives, the plan also emphasized how crucial it is for different government agencies, corporations, and non-governmental organizations to work together. It recognized the need of including communities in the home construction process and encouraged the adoption of community-driven initiatives. Three million homes would be required throughout the nation by 2020, according to the policy. Approximately twenty percent of these homes were to be constructed in the nation's 58 urban municipalities at the time. However, the implementation of these two programs needed significant financial resources.

Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy (LARRP) 2015

The acquisition of land for an infrastructure project is made easier by this regulation. This regulation only applies when the installation of telephone lines, transmission lines, and underground drinking water pipelines affects people's ability to make a living and they are entitled to compensation. The cost of the project will be increased by the costs of land acquisition, compensation, and implementation. The five-person group will be involved in calculating and arriving at a remuneration package that is in line with market rates. If someone is dissatisfied with the land acquisition process, they can file complaints with the district, regional, or appellate court project office or hearing office.

Resilience and sustainability concept incorporated:

- The key provision for it is as to ensure livelihood of project affected person or household, to emphasize project development agency for meaningful consultation, accomplished compensation payment & efforts, land acquisition through negotiation, land-based compensation & resettlement.

- The major inclusive programs for enhancement at socio-economic development for disadvantaged groups should be enhanced.
- There should be provision of subsidized rates to the project affected persons.
- For the physically displaced groups there should be provision of additional assistance like residential, goods, relocation. House rental etc.
- Also, employment opportunities & livelihood restoration to project affected livelihood should be ensure & project development agency should ensure allocation of resources.

Post Disaster Need Assessment (PDNA)

PDNA stands for the disaster framework carried out under the leadership of National Planning Commission (NPC) to proper access the various impact of the disaster, their recovery strategy, restoration of livelihoods, economy, and rehabilitation & reconstruction of housing, infrastructure etc. It encompasses the twenty-three subject areas of cross-cutting, productive, social, and infrastructure sectors. (Nepali Government, 2015) The main requirements for housing and human settlement recovery are: designing for disaster resilience; appropriately repairing damaged homes; providing adequate shelter; recovering in its current state; re-clustering; providing training facilities; and risk-sensitive planning.

Resilience and sustainability concept incorporated:

- The key principles for reconstruction are empowering the communities, integrating for safer settlement, long-term resilience, strengthening local economy, sustainability consciousness, equity, inclusiveness & targeted strategies.
- For the proper recovery and reconstruction effort firstly the high-level working body to guide key policy must be established. Then proper recommendation policy should develop followed by damaged assessment & mass awareness program.
- Training & certification programmed should be mobilized to bring interference between people & government. Relocation & Re-clustering should be done with appropriate policy framework & mechanism too.

National Urban Development Strategy (NUDS, 2017)

One of the first important documents in the urban sector to recognize the value of resilience in urban planning and development was the NUDS. Resilience is one of the five fundamental concepts listed by NUDS, along with sustainability, inclusivity, efficiency, and green practices. According to NUDS, resilience is defined as the ability to withstand risks and adapt to changing conditions on a physical, social, economic, and institutional level. Nonetheless, NUDS has limitations when it comes to explaining these different aspects of resilience and offering logical methods for achieving them.

NRA Resettlement Policy

For the geological studies, the Department of Mining and Geology is responsible. In accordance with the NRA's criteria, the DMG divided all settlements into three groups: a. no intervention was necessary; b. settlement may continue in place with infrastructure intervention; and c. vulnerable communities that required relocation. Regarding the category C settlements, two choices exist: If there are more than ten beneficiaries, the NRA encourages the development of integrated communities, for which it provides funding for infrastructure and land. a. With an NRA land grant of NPR 200,000, they can purchase land in their preferred location. b. The grant amount varies according on the topographic region, from 300,000 to 500,000 NPR (Bahadur Shrestha & Prasad Bhatta, n.d.).

Guideline for Integrated Settlement Development, 2075

Nepal has three ways to integrated settlement. Earthquake victims from fragile settlements, earthquake victims from disadvantaged groups, and earthquake sufferers who are landless are all beneficiaries of integrated settlement development. Beneficiaries named above may propose an Integrated Settlement Development Plan with the assistance of connected agencies. The number of Beneficiaries must be at least ten. The government will provide funds for the construction of infrastructure and services in the Integrated Settlement through the NRA. Integrated Settlement Development Plan should be prepared in two stages: Preliminary Plan and Detailed Plan. Local Government shall undertake implementation of the project with 10 to 99 beneficiaries and for more than 99 beneficiaries DLPIU or the agency selected by NRA shall be involved. After the approval

of Detailed Plan, implementation agency shall contact NRA for Budget release. For ten to ninety-nine household's implementation is done by Local Government in which household in mountainous region gets maximum of NRs. 500,000, in hilly Rural area gets maximum of NRs. 400,000 and in hilly urban and terai Area gets maximum of NRs. 300,000 per household. For more than ninety-nine families, NRA shall provide budget for implementation (NRA, 2075b).

Resilience concept:

- Fund required for development of Infrastructure and Services in the Integrated Settlement will be provisioned by the government through NRA.
- Possible ways of income generation and earning should be considered during relocation to the Integrated Settlement.

2.2.3 Resilient City

Resilient cities and settlements are those which continuously work on goals of enhancing their formal and community capabilities, people's basic entitlements and innovating in public policies and creating choices in "service" provisioning that enable them to, (i) reduce growth externalities (e.g. environmental degradation, poverty), (ii) adapt to stresses and shocks of all hazards and disturbances (see Figure 3)—while still maintaining their essential functions, and (iii) enable to get back to normalcy efficiently and flourish to better condition in aftermath of disruptions. The choices allow alternatives at time of distress. Further, resilient cities and communities do so by giving due attention to the needs of special and marginalized groups, and preserving natural and cultural heritage.

The goal of Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11) is to create inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable cities and human settlements. It tackles the potential and problems brought about by urbanization, emphasizing the improvement of living conditions for all individuals, particularly those who are vulnerable. SDG 11 acknowledges that housing and cities are essential to creating resilient communities.

Within the framework of resilient housing and cities, SDG 11 highlights the following elements: Public spaces and safety, cultural and natural heritage, inclusive and affordable

housing, upgrading of slums and informal settlements, sustainable urbanization, and resilience to disasters

2.2.4 Community Resilience

According to IFRC (2014), community refers to a group of people who may or may not live within the same area but share a similar physical environment, services and resources. Emphasizing resilience at the community level is crucial due to the central role communities play in our endeavors. Not only do communities play a major role in building resilience, but they are also the first to react to any changes. The phrase "community resilience" refers to the intricate web of interrelated systems, such as the constructed, ecological, and socioeconomic surroundings, that have a direct influence on human society at the local level. When people live in a community, they should be able to function and maintain essential systems under pressure, adjust to changes in the physical, social, or economic environment, rely on themselves in the event that external resources are scarce or unavailable, and learn from mistakes in order to become a better community over time.

A resilient community...



Figure 4: Community Resilience by IFRC

2.2.5 Theories of Community Development in Resettlement

Community has been defined in many ways and in many contexts.

According to Zablocki in *The Joyful Community*, an intentional community is a group of persons associated together for the purpose of establishing a whole way of life. As such, it shall display to some degree, each of the following characteristics: common geographical location; economic interdependence; social, cultural, educational, and spiritual inter-

exchange of uplift and development. The two foundational theories most relevant to post disaster resettlement development: **technical assistance and self-help.**

Technical assistance involves external organizations aiding communities by offering expertise, resources, and plans to tackle issues. It assumes that communities understand their problems but lack the necessary skills or resources. The focus is on achieving specific goals with less emphasis on the methods used. In heterogenous resettlements, community cohesion might be lacking and needs to be built. Deciding on and executing priority projects can be challenging and divisive. Developmental technical assistance could be valuable by fostering social unity and capital necessary for subsequent self-help strategies.

The Self-Help Approach

The self-help approach believes in residents' ability to enhance their community. It's participatory, emphasizing collaboration between agents of change and beneficiaries. This approach emphasizes on building social capital and utilizing existing community assets for self-improvement. However, there are assumptions that might not align with post-disaster resettlements. For instance, a population dealing with trauma might lack essential assets or the required resources.

La Iglesia developed its own resettlement development model, a hybrid of technical assistance and self-help, as SAGE—sustain, accompany, guide and empower. Like the two strategies discussed, SAGE describes the relationship between the supporting organization and resettlement citizens and institutions.

SAGE development strategy bridges the technical assistance and self-help approaches. The sustain and guide aspects of SAGE are similar to the external support and intervention promoted by technical assistance. In addition, following the self-help approach, organizational influences must decrease while resident empowerment increases. All three strategies must also be reinforced for multiple years.

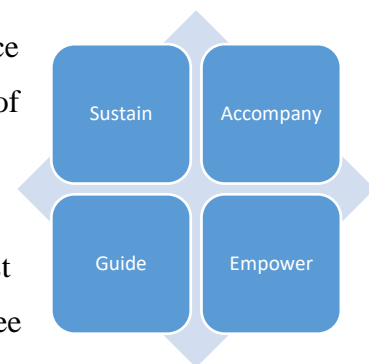


Figure 5: SAGE development strategy (R. Alazin, 2017)

2.2.6 A Framework for Understanding Community Social Development:

Ultimately, the success of and resettlement is much more than a matter of delivering and constructing houses and towns. It is as much a matter of how it is done as it is of what, or how much, is done. (Oliver-Smith 1991, 20)

As mentioned by Alaniz (2017), like snowballs gaining momentum and size as they roll down a hill, the culture of resettlements becomes deeply embedded in the residents and the physical attributes of the area over time. Initially, new heterogeneous resettlements are like small snowballs at the top of a hill, yet to create their own culture. As they choose a cultural path and start to roll down the hill, they pick up speed. Social practices and values are socially constructed and reinforced, narrowing the path. It becomes increasingly difficult to push resettlements towards a different cultural milieu as their inertia grows. This framework, known as path dependence, has been found valuable by many scholars (R. Alazin, 2017):

- Initial conditions and critical juncture

Initial conditions such as resident background, organizational strategies, NGO background, resource input, commitment timeframe, resettlement design, and resident training significantly influenced the formation of distinct community cultures in the resettlements. Pino Alto's central space was not conducive to social interaction due to heat, lack of shade, and dust. In contrast, Suyapa's central space, though smaller, was user-friendly with paving, plants, shade, and a water fountain, promoting social interaction. Predictably, Suyapa had higher social capital and collective efficacy due to its urban planning. These initial conditions are key predictors of a community's future success.

- Mechanisms that set the development process moving

Early efforts to establish a collective vision and social norms are crucial, providing the groundwork for the development of social capital, collective efficacy, social cohesion, and civic participation. The unique characteristics of a heterogeneous resettlement, such as the absence of long-term social networks and the novelty of the resettlement, allow each resettlement's culture to take different forms. Organizations and early residents are presented with the opportunity and challenge of defining a collective vision and norms to

support it. Certain key characteristics and processes such as scope of work, selection process, community development before resettlement, social development, buy-in, social control, time commitment, and type of leadership support, which are difficult to predict without theory, exemplars, or hindsight, can significantly influence the trajectory of each resettlement. Before relocating future residents, each organization began socializing them towards a collective vision and behaviors to foster that vision. La Internacional focused on individual development in macro-albergues, offering capacity-building courses on self-esteem, tourism, customer service, human relations, and employment skills. They emphasized that home construction was a means to community development, not an end. During construction, they aimed for equal participation, security, appropriate housing, conflict management, skill development for income generation and home maintenance, and community development through respect for communal work.

- Key processes that sustain movement along the path, and

The process of moving a resettlement towards community, particularly the conciliation of culture, is complex and long-lived. Defining a collective vision and social norms is relatively straightforward, but obtaining buy-in and commitment from residents relocated from dozens of different neighborhoods is more complex. The role of the NGO can either strengthen or degrade the initially created community culture. The organization's focus on keeping the community focused, supporting the vision over time, and intervening when necessary impacts the reproduction of the new set of social norms. Additionally, resident empowerment through capacity building before and after relocation, increasing responsibility of the CCS, and collaborations where residents decide on and build projects with materials provided by the organization, contribute to this process.

- Self-reinforcement

Culture formation in a community, akin to knowing a tree by its fruit, can often be reflected in its social health, commonly discussed in terms of crime. The contrasting social health outcomes in Pino Alto and Suyapa can be attributed to the different community development approaches implemented by their respective supporting organizations. The creation and reinforcement of a collective vision and social norms throughout the process are crucial for building a thriving resettlement foundation. Lack of support can lead to

resettlements fracturing along various lines, undermining social capital, cohesion, and collective efficacy. Ultimately, divided resettlements face greater challenges in overcoming social problems and building future resilience.

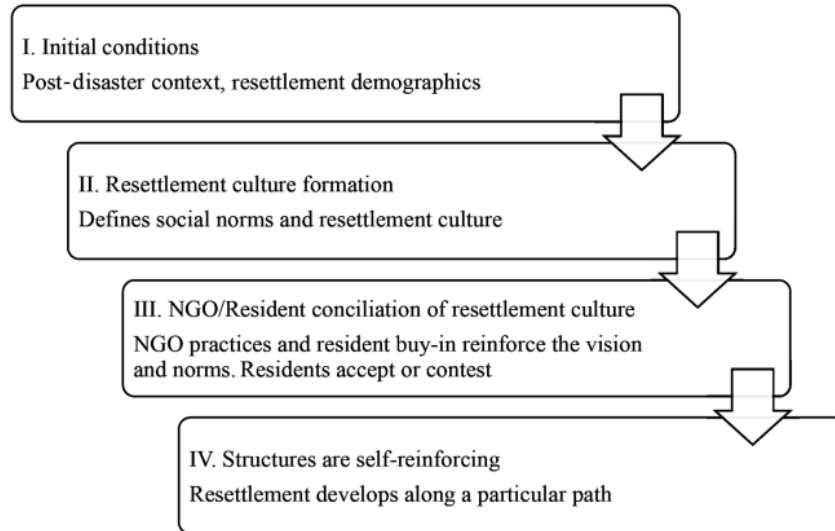


Figure 6 Path Creation and Reinforcement over time (From Strangers to NeighborS, n.d.)

2.2.7 Review of Resilience Frameworks

PEOPLES framework

PEOPLES is a multi-layered framework developed at the Multidisciplinary Center of Earthquake Engineering Research (MCEER, State University of New York) that aims to identify different resilience characteristics of a community at different scales (spatial and temporal) and assess possible responses of a community by taking into account the interdependence between community

levels. The PEOPLES framework consists of seven dimensions of a community divided into a set of components, each of which is subdivided into several indicators. The seven dimensions are summarized by the acronyms PEOPLES as follows; Population and demographics, Environment and ecosystem, Organized government services, Physical



Figure 7: Peoples resilience framework – dimensions

infrastructure, Lifestyle and community competence, Economic development, and Social-cultural capital.

Every dimension of the PEOPLES framework is divided into a set of components and every component is further broken down into a set of indicators. Regarding the indicators, a list of 115 resilience indicators found in the literature was collected and allocated to the proper components of PEOPLES (De Iuliis et al., 2022).

Baseline Resilience Indicators for Communities (BRIC)

The Baseline Resilience Indicators for Communities (BRIC) describes the differences in community resilience among counties within the state and within the nation through a comparative community resilience score. BRIC is comprised of six broad categories of community disaster resilience. Used as an initial baseline for monitoring existing attributes of resilience to natural hazards, BRIC can be used to compare places to one another, to determine the specific drivers of resilience for counties, and to monitor improvements in resilience over time. BRIC considers six broad categories of community disaster resilience: social, economic, community capital, institutional, infrastructural, and environmental at the county level (Camacho et al., 2023).

Social (n=7)	Economic (n=7)	Institutional (n=8)	Infrastructure (n=7)	Community capital (n=7)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational equity • Age • Transport access • Communication capacity • Language competency • Special needs • Health coverage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing capital • Employment • Income and equality • Single sector employment dependence • Female employment • Business size • Health access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazard mitigation plans • Flood insurance coverage • Municipal services • Mitigation • Political fragmentation • Previous disaster experience • Mitigation and social connectivity • Flood mitigation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing type • Shelter capacity • Medical capacity • Access/evacuation potential • Housing age • Sheltering needs • Recovery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Net migration • Population born in state • Political engagement • Social capital – religion • Social capital – civic involvement • Social capital – advocacy • Innovation

Figure 8: Overview of Baseline Resilience Indicator for Communities

100 Resilient Cities

The 100 Resilient Cities initiative by the Rockefeller Foundation uses a City Resilience Framework, shown in Figure. The framework includes four 'dimensions', and three 'drivers' within each dimension (Blakeley, 2016). They are:

Health and wellbeing

- Meets basic needs
- Supports livelihoods and employment
- Ensures public health services

2. Economy and society

- Fosters economic prosperity
- Ensures social stability, security and justice
- Promotes cohesive and engaged communities

3. Infrastructure and environment

- Provides reliable communication and mobility
- Ensures continuity of critical services
- Provides and enhances natural and man-made assets

4. Leadership and strategy

- Promotes leadership and effective management
- Empowers a broad range of stakeholders
- Fosters long-term and integrated planning



Figure 9: 100 Resilient Cities; after Christchurch City Resilience Framework

Sustainable livelihood framework

According to Carney (1998), ‘livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stresses and shocks and maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets both now and in the future, while not undermining the natural resource base’ The sustainable livelihood framework in particular links inputs (capitals or assets) and outputs (livelihood strategies); it connects in turn to outcomes (food security, wellbeing and sustainability). According to Scoones, a sustainable livelihood is a composite of many ideas and interests, the coming together of a number of different strands in the development debate. According to McDowell (2002), sustainability of livelihood has three main components: a sustainable improvement in livelihood measured by the reduction in poverty and livelihood enhancement; ecological sustainability; and long term resilience for future shocks and stresses.

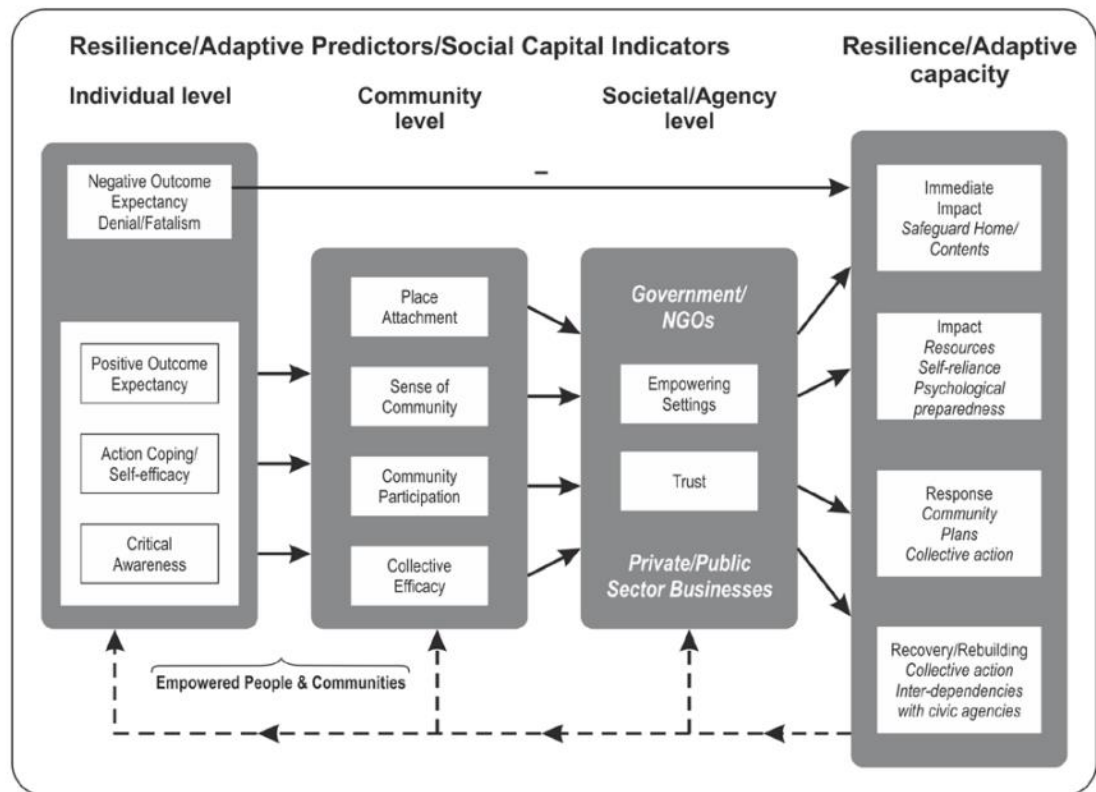


Figure 10: A model of community resilience (Paton, 2010)

2.3 MARGINALIZATION

Marginalization or social exclusion is a concept that describes both a current condition, and a dynamic process. It implies that those who are marginalized or excluded as a group are unable to fully engage in their society. This is typically related to aspects of identity (race, gender, ethnicity, caste, religion, etc.); or geography (such as isolated, stigmatized, or disaster-stricken areas, among others). As a multidimensional and dynamic process, it refers to the social relations and organizational barriers that block the attainment of livelihoods, human development and equal citizenship. Marginalization/Social exclusion is a process and a state that prevents individuals or groups from full participation in social, economic and political life and from asserting their rights. It derives from exclusionary relationships based on power.

USAID defines marginalized as those who are denied, or have very limited access to, privileges enjoyed by the wider society. They form a marginalized class because they are perceived as deviating from the norm, or lacking desirable traits, and therefore are excluded or ostracized as outsiders, because of ethnicity, gender, LGBT, disability, or geography.

UN/UNESCO has no agreed definition of “marginalization and uses The EFA Global Monitoring Report 2010 definition of marginalization as “a form of acute and persistent disadvantage rooted in underlying social inequalities”. It has a comprehensive list of marginalized groups which includes women, hard to reach groups such as indigenous people and ethnic minorities, poor households, people living in informal settlements, individuals with disabilities, rural populations, nomadic populations those affected by armed conflict and HIV and AIDS, and street and working children.

World Bank equals marginalization to exclusion and identifies 4 basic forms of exclusion: from economic, political, cultural and social life of the communities, which altogether create a vicious cycle. Marginalization starts with the lack of access to basic infrastructure, then turns to the next phase of a lack of identity documents which blocks integration into society’s mechanisms. Third is a lack of an education system, and fourth - lack of employment opportunities.

2.3.1 Marginalized Communities in Nepal

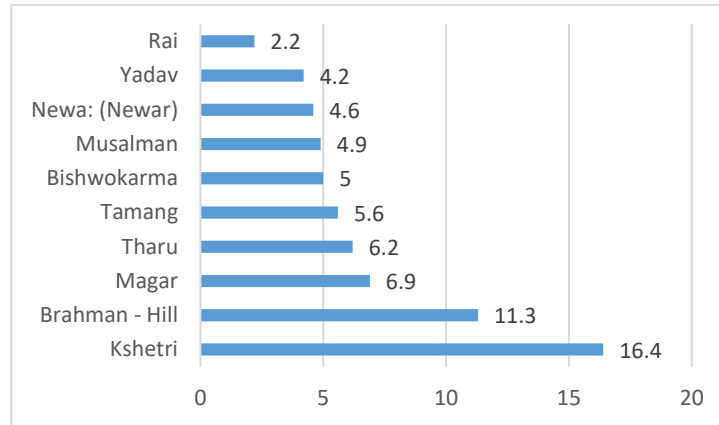


Figure 11: Population by ethnicity, Census 2021

In Nepal, indigenous nationalities represent the marginalized section of the country both spatially as well as socio-economically. Not only do the majority of indigenous people reside in the geographically remote parts of the country, but also their socio-economic and human development indicators lie far below the national average. Madhesi Dalit, Muslim and Tharu communities are the three major marginalised groups in the Terai region. These three groups share some common forms of marginalisation and exclusion: socio-economic deprivation, exclusion from the state power and lower political representations and limited access to resources (Lall & Prakash, n.d.).

Socio-cultural, Economic and Political Exclusion:

Socio-cultural exclusion of Dalits can be seen in a variety of socio-cultural settings, particularly in those areas where they have to be in close physical contact with ‘upper caste’ people or touch water and food items: funeral or birth rites, wedding ceremonies, community feasts or cultural programmes, community meetings and training, non-formal educational classes and income-generating activities. Income-earning white-collar jobs are largely unavailable for Dalits mainly because of their relatively low educational status, apart from their ‘untouchable’ status.

Access to resources: Caste hierarchy in the Nepali society broadly corresponds to the economic position of the particular caste group. ‘Lower caste’ people tend to be poor also because of their reduced access to both material and non-material resources. Being born into a ‘lower caste’ household implies much greater likelihood of reduced access to

resources and thus falling into the poverty trap as compared to being born in an 'upper caste' family (ILO, 2005).

2.3.2 A marginalized community of Musahars

Musahar are settled in the region which is rich in land resources. It is evidenced by their close proximity to land on the agricultural area. It may be due to agriculture as their livelihood as well as their keen interest with mud and farming. They have established themselves on the lower paddy land, however houses are built at slightly elevated adjoining upland, Musahar settlements are more clustered. It is so because Musahar prefer to live in close contact with their relatives they live in the cluster which includes from five or six to thirty or more houses. They share courtyard and passage in common. Indeed, such type of living of the Musahar tend to seclude their settlements from the settlement of other ethnic groups. However, in course of time, due to the lack of site to build houses nearby old settlement as a consequence of population growth, they find "Parti' or "aailani' land which is under control of municipality and settle themselves there.

Musahar, generally, set their houses in groups and mixed types because of no-land situation and population high they build their house usually by local materials like, Bamboo, Thatched roof, mud and wood. Because these materials are economically to construct. Walls of the house are made by stick with mud plaster on them without any ventilation. The shape and size of houses are so poor. Some have only one room where all family father, mother, son and daughter live with the kitchen and barn. Because they have no land for make big house which shows, how much they are poor and getting poorer (Poudel & Kattel, 2019).

Causes of Economic Backwardness of Musahar Community

The Musahar are the victims of the feudal political structure where they prove 'voiceless' and 'choice less'. Unequal distribution of resources and exploitative relations of production have compelled most of the Musahar to live as paupers, landless and homeless. The problem of untouchability does not allow them to improve their economic conditions as many of them are not allowed to sell milk or engage themselves in tea stalls, hotels, restaurants, etc.

2.4 FRAMEWORKS OF RESILIENCE IN RESETTLEMENT OF MARGINALIZED COMMUNITY

Table 1: Frameworks of resilience in resettlement of marginalized community

Components	Sub-components	Sources:
Social and community capital resilience	Community participation	PEOPLE'S Framework, BRIC, Sustainable Livelihood Framework
	Place attachment and social cohesion	
	Socio- Cultural sensitivity	
	Adaptive Capacity	
Economic Resilience	Accessibility	
	Livelihood Support	
	Capacity Building	
	Inclusivity	
Infrastructure and Disaster Resilience	Disaster Risk Reduction	
	Social Connectivity	
	Critical Infrastructures	
	Housing types and needs	
Institutional Resilience	Advocacy and Policy support	
	Engagement of stakeholders	
	Land tenure and land ownership	

2.4.1 Social capital resilience

Community participation

It involves active engagement, collaboration, and collective decision-making among community members to address challenges, enhance well-being, and promote sustainable development. Resettled communities often possess valuable local knowledge about their environment, resources, and traditional practices. Through community participation, this knowledge can be harnessed and integrated with external expertise, resulting in contextually relevant and sustainable solutions that enhance resilience (Blakeley, 2016).

Place attachment and social cohesion

Social connections create a support network that can be relied upon during times of crisis or difficulty, contributing to the community's ability to cope, recover, and bounce back from challenges. It includes social integration within the community members who share communal bond with each other and have a sense of belongingness. One of the crucial

reasons that resettled people donot live together is due to lack of place attachment and social cohesion.

Socio- Cultural sensitivity

Cultural norms and traditions often include established coping mechanisms for dealing with challenges. By engaging in these shared practices, community members access tried-and-true strategies for managing stress, grief, and uncertainty, bolstering their emotional and psychological resilience. By engaging in cultural activities, events, and practices, the community reinforces its sense of identity and belonging, which in turn contributes to a strong social fabric that enhances resilience.

Adaptive Capacity

Adaptive capacity refers to the community's ability to anticipate, respond to, and recover from changes, challenges, and shocks by effectively adjusting its strategies, systems, and behaviors. It enables the community to integrate new cultural elements while preserving its unique identity. The community's ability to maintain cultural practices that are relevant and beneficial in the new context contributes to its resilience. It also empowers the community to manage its resources efficiently and equitably. The ability to allocate resources based on changing needs and priorities ensures that essential services, such as food, water, and shelter, are accessible to all, enhancing overall resilience (Blakeley, 2016).

2.4.2 Economic Resilience

Accessibility

Accessibility refers to the ease of reaching essential resources, services, opportunities, and markets. Accessibility supports the diversification of livelihoods. Communities with access to various economic activities, such as agriculture, services, and manufacturing, can reduce their dependence on a single income source. Access to various livelihood opportunities leads to the creation of jobs and employment prospects within the community (De Iuliis et al., 2022). This not only supports individual households but also contributes to the overall economic growth of the community.

Livelihood opportunities

Livelihood opportunities refer to the range of income-generating activities and employment options available to community members. Livelihood opportunities may involve access to microfinance and financial services. This enables community members to invest in their businesses, manage risks, and build financial resilience.

Financial Literacy for Empowering Marginalized People

The theories of behavioral study also show that the behavior of the individuals are subject to change their knowledge, skill and attitude. Similarly, the agenda of empowerment and transformation are relative, contextual and dynamic in nature. This study concludes that empowerment is one of the prime concerns of those people who are still marginalized and excluded from the mainstream of societies from several aspects.

Theoretically, the microeconomics raises the economic agenda of individuals and business firms in unit level (Banerjee & Jackson, 2017). Jureviciene and Ivanova (2013) argue that behavioral finance theory focuses how financial information could empower the individuals and thereby making well financial decision. They further highlight that behavior of a person is influenced by rationality.

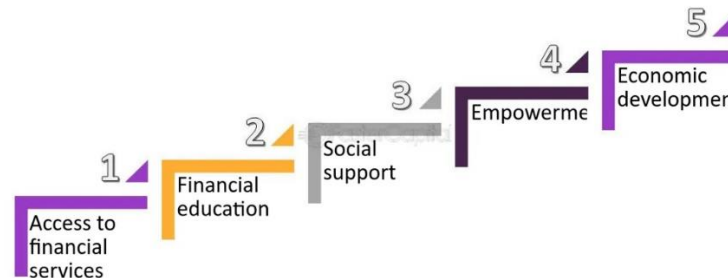


Figure 12: Finance for Marginalized Communities (Banerjee & Jackson, 2017)

- The concept of Self-Help Groups in India

Self-Help Groups are small groups of people, mainly women, who live in rural areas and come together to save money and provide loans to each other (Banerjee & Jackson, 2017). They decide on savings and loan activities together, including the purpose, amount, interest rate, and repayment schedule. SHG bank linkage refers to a program initiated by

the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) in India. Under this program, self-help groups that have accumulated their own capital can borrow funds from banks. It aims to facilitate access to formal financial services and micro-credit for self-help groups, promoting financial inclusion and empowering marginalized communities. Self-Help Groups (SHGs) have emerged as a powerful tool for poverty alleviation and empowerment in India. These voluntary associations bring together economically disadvantaged individuals from similar socio-economic backgrounds to address common issues through self-help and community action (Banerjee & Jackson, 2017).

Capacity Building

Capacity building initiatives provide targeted skill development and training programs that equip community members with practical skills relevant to various economic activities. This empowers individuals to pursue income-generating opportunities and adapt to changing market demands (Blakeley, 2016).

Inclusivity

Inclusivity is a critical parameter of economic resilience within a resettled marginalized community, playing a pivotal role in ensuring that all community members, regardless of their backgrounds, have equitable access to opportunities, resources, and decision-making processes. Inclusivity ensures that all community members, irrespective of their social, economic, or cultural backgrounds, have equal access to a diverse range of livelihood opportunities. This prevents the marginalization of certain groups and maximizes the potential for economic growth and stability.

2.4.3 Infrastructure and Disaster resilience

Disaster Risk Reduction

DRR advocates for the design and construction of shelters that can withstand disasters and provide safe havens for community members during emergencies. By integrating DRR principles and practices into various aspects of community life, the resettled community becomes better equipped to anticipate, mitigate, respond to, and recover from disasters. This comprehensive approach enhances the community's ability to safeguard its

infrastructure, protect livelihoods, and ensure the overall well-being of its residents in the face of various hazards.

Social Connectivity

Strong social connections facilitate effective communication and information sharing among community members. During disasters, clear and timely communication is essential for disseminating alerts, warnings, and crucial information, enabling residents to make informed decisions and take appropriate actions. Social connectivity fosters the formation of mutual assistance and support networks, where individuals and families help each other during times of need. These networks provide emotional support, share resources, and assist vulnerable members, enhancing overall community resilience.

Critical Infrastructures

Critical infrastructure encompasses the provision of essential services such as water supply, sanitation, electricity, and communication networks. These services are indispensable for meeting the daily needs of the community and ensuring public health and safety, particularly during and after disasters. It refers to the essential physical and organizational systems, facilities, and assets that are vital for the functioning, safety, and well-being of the community. Resettled communities require access to well-equipped emergency services facilities, such as fire stations, police stations, and medical centers. These facilities play a vital role in disaster response, providing immediate assistance and medical care to those in need.

2.4.4 Institutional Resilience

Advocacy and Policy support

Advocacy involves giving voice to the concerns, needs, and aspirations of the resettled community. By advocating for their rights, equitable access to resources, and representation in decision-making processes, the community gains visibility and recognition, which strengthens its position and agency. Advocacy can lead to policy

reforms and legal changes that address systemic inequalities and challenges faced by the resettled community. Changes in laws, regulations, and policies can create an enabling environment that supports the community's resilience-building efforts. For advocacy planning purposes stakeholders are conventionally divided into three broad categories (Mayoux, 2003).

Figure 1: Stakeholder framework for advocacy

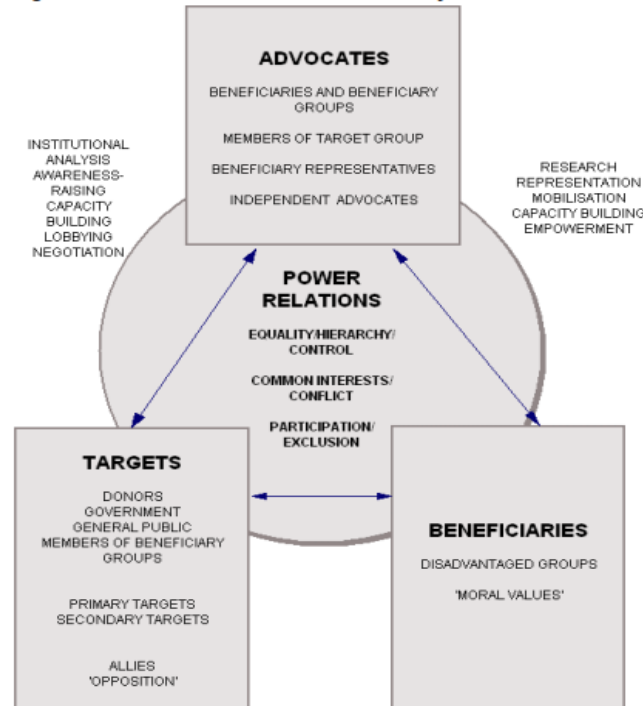


Figure 13: Stakeholder Framework for Advocacy (Mayoux, 2003).

Land tenure and land ownership:

Land tenure system in Nepal has its own historical context and complexities. There are three broad categories based on ownership, while multiple types exist based on farming contracts. Various traditional system including Raikar, Birta, Jagir, Guthi were the types that existed even before the ‘unification’ of Nepal (1876). Once the state began to control the land and other natural resources, the tenure issues became more complicated. Now, the question of tenure security has appeared as one of the major land issues in Nepal (UN Habitat, 2018).



Figure 14: Land tenureship Typologies in Nepal (UN-Habitat, 2018)

Well-defined land tenure encourages long-term planning and investment in the community's future. Marginalized community members with ownership rights are more motivated to make improvements to their land and housing, leading to the development of sustainable infrastructure, housing upgrades, and other initiatives that enhance community resilience. Land ownership gives marginalized communities a platform for advocacy and legal protection. When the community holds legal rights to their land, they can advocate for their interests, demand fair treatment, and access legal recourse in cases of land disputes or unfair treatment. There are different models of land tenureship as discussed:

- **Individual Land Ownership:** Providing individual land titles or ownership rights to resettled community members ensures security and a sense of ownership. This encourages long-term investment in land, leading to sustainable agriculture or livelihood practices.
- **Collective Land Tenure:** Recognizing rural communities as owners of their land is becoming more common and accepted. It is important to understand that even if community-owned land isn't officially registered, it still exists as property, and registering it just makes it official (Wily, 2018). Implementing communal or collective land tenure systems can strengthen community ties

and preserve cultural practices. It fosters shared responsibility for land management, enhancing resilience through collective decision-making.

- Leasehold Land Tenure ship: Leasehold land tenure can be more affordable initially compared to outright land purchase, making it more accessible for marginalized or resettled communities with limited resources (Werner & Bayer, 2017). The registered leasehold land tenure offers a balance between security and flexibility, enabling resettled communities to establish roots, build sustainable livelihoods, and contribute to their long-term development without the immediate financial burden of outright ownership. This also avoids unwanted land transaction between beneficiaries.

Engagement of stakeholders

Stakeholder engagement ensures that a diverse range of perspectives, knowledge, and experiences are considered in the decision-making processes related to the resettled community. This inclusivity leads to decisions that are more informed, well-rounded, and reflective of the community's unique needs and circumstances. Their ongoing involvement ensures that initiatives continue to evolve, adapt, and remain relevant over time, allowing the community to maintain its resilience in the face of evolving challenges. Collaborating with a diverse array of stakeholders fosters partnerships that extend beyond the resettled community. These partnerships create opportunities for knowledge sharing, joint initiatives, and coordinated efforts that can amplify the impact of resilience-building projects. Likewise, when the community faces challenges such as natural disasters or emergencies, these stakeholders can contribute resources, expertise, and assistance to facilitate a more effective response and recovery.

2.5 REVIEW OF NATIONAL CASES:

2.5.1 Kirtipur Sambridha Awas

- Location: Paliphah, Kirtipur Municipality, Kathmandu
- Valley, Nepal
- Size: 44 households
- Timeline: 2003-2005
- Type: Relocation of poor riverside squatters to new land that was purchased by the Kathmandu municipal government, where the people designed and built a new community of snug brick rowhouses.



Figure 15: Site plan (Lumanti, n.d.)

Building Communities Through Saving

Providing technical and financial support for promoting and strengthening 45 community based women saving and credit groups and cooperatives [Including 36 formal, 5 in process, 4 self help group (informally run) women cooperatives and women self-help groups.

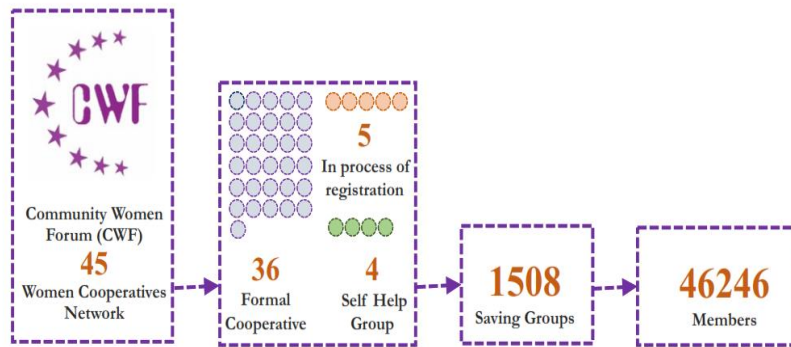


Figure 16: Building Communities through Saving. (image source: Lumanti)

LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF THE PROJECT

Before the initiation of the resettlement housing project, all 43 families were categorized as squatters on public land adjacent to the Vishnumati River, devoid of any legal safeguards or housing entitlements. The project resulted in the establishment of the Urban Community Support Fund (UCSF) within the confines of Kathmandu Metropolitan City in 2003. The principal objective of this Fund was to ensure easy accessibility for impoverished urban communities, aiding them in enhancing their socio-economic conditions, housing, and physical amenities.

In the resettlement housing project in Kirtipur, the new land was purchased by the Kathmandu Urban Community Support Fund and given to the people as a grant. The agreement was that the Fund would retain ownership of the land and houses until the people repaid their housing loans, when they would all become individual owners of their houses and small plots. Since by June 2021, some families were still repaying their housing loans, the title to the land was still being held by the Fund. In the mean time, the community and their supporters have been exploring ways by which the house ownership could be transferred to the people individually, but the land could be owned cooperatively. There is still no clear legal mechanism for cooperative ownership of land yet in Nepal, but the community members and board members of the Fund continue to discuss and explore possibilities .



Figure 17: Demo house Presented to beneficiaries



Figure 18: Typical plans of houses

Resettlement in Perspective of Resilience

- **Social**

The community collaboratively constructed a temple precinct where they joyfully observe various festivals such as Dashain, Tihar, and Holi. Over time, a robust sense of social unity has developed among the community members. Although the host community initially hesitated to embrace the newcomers, they have now warmly embraced them. These newcomers are now active participants in the municipality, actively engaging in various sectors.

- **Physical**

The community has proper connectivity and convenient access to infrastructure. While road access to houses was included in the initial plan and construction, establishing private electricity lines, water connections, sewage facilities, and more became necessary. Given the absence of a sewage system in the vicinity, a reed-based wastewater treatment system was implemented. Moreover, the community has effectively implemented rainwater harvesting systems. They also manage local groundwater sources like wells and springs, utilizing borehole technology for extraction. To maintain groundwater levels, water is recharged into the ground during the monsoon season.

- **Economic**

Many families initially experienced serious economic problems with being so far away from their jobs and sources of income. There were also some problems with housing loan repayments - many of them related to disruptions in earning that came with the move to Kirtipur. These problems diminished with time, and with the rapid development of the area around the housing project, though, which brought many new job and economic opportunities nearby. Due to the proximity of location to nearby market areas and diverse economic opportunities in the municipality, the community is involved in diverse fields. Some members sell meat, some are tailors, some have shop, while others are involved in different organizations and institutions.

2.5.2 Koshi Housing Project

The project was designed to resettle the flood affected 235 landless families, essentially to secure their fundamental right to housing, coupled with improving their livelihood options. The government has provided 2 kattha (676 sqm) of land to each family which is co-owned by husband and wife. The entitlement of land has led to improved quality of life of the affected families.

Given the limited budget, the houses in the planned settlement were constructed at low cost basis and more resistant to natural hazard. Focus was more in use of locally available materials and technology. Thus, use of treated bamboo and adobe was promoted, with emphasis on disaster risk reduction through appropriate settlement planning and house design.



Figure 19: Site Plan of Koshi Housing Project (UN Habitat)



Figure 20: Bamboo Houses during resettlement (UN Habitat)

Activities in Resettlement process

1. Preparation of Guidance Strategy Paper and development of forms

A document was prepared by Lumanti Support Group for Shelter with UN Habitat, with a list of criteria and information in order to identify the 225 beneficiary within the list compiled by IOM. This guidance strategy paper was shared in a workshop conducted in presence of DDRC members assistant CDO, LDO, representative from UNDP, Lumanti and UN Habitat. The Nepal Development Volunteers Society (NDVS) with support from the local VDC were mobilized to collect the baseline survey.

2. Development of a process to identify the 225 beneficiary

Tallying and analysis of the data collected from the above mentioned process revealed that there was a huge difference in the number of families identified through this and the data mentioned in the IOM's list. For this, responsibility of the verification was given to Nepal Basobas Basti Samrachyan Samaj by Lumanti.

3. Purchase of land for the proposed resettlement

A committee with representatives from political parties and DDRC members was formed who were responsible for selection and purchase the land required for the project. Through this the area of 29 bigha-6 katha land was selected and purchased. This information has been shared with all the concerned stakeholders including the possible beneficiaries.

4. Signing of MoU with Habitat for Humanity

Bamboo construction has been the traditional way of building homes in this region of the country. Given the constraints of limited budget for construction of individual units, this is further affected by the fact that availability of conventional low cost materials such as hollow cement blocks is next to impossible in the area, thus has proved to be expensive. Habitat for Humanity-Nepal (HfH-N), an international nongovernmental organization has developed the cost effective building technology using treated bamboo. This INGO has worked with poor communities in Nepal, by providing low cost shelter to them. The bamboo construction technology involved a system prefabricated bamboo panels for walling, which have proved to be very effective cost effective technology.

5. Finalization of design for the shelter model

Considering the suggestions given by the shelter experts and also with consultation with technical personals of HfH-N, the design for the shelter model was finalized. In addition to this, the technical team from Lumanti and UN Habitat, visited the Haripur VDC to study the existing way of the community has been living.

6. Consultation with the DUDBC regarding the land plotting

DUDBC, Sunsari was given the responsibility of developing design for land layout in the given 29 bigha-6 katha land which includes the proposed 225 plots. There were some doubts on how this design is compatible with the way how the community members are

presently living. However, it was made clear that the plot size of 45mx15m would easily accommodate ways they have been currently living.

7. Selection of NBBSS as the local partner

To emphasize on the important aspect of the community participation, the unit committee, Sunsari of NBBSS was mobilized as the local partner. NBBSS members, being the representatives of the landless community, ensured maximum community participation in the entire process. Training programs on leadership, project and financial management was given to them to further strengthen their organization.

For Implementation

- A bank account will be opened in their name.
- An advisory board comprising of LDO, CDO, LUMANTI, UN HABITAT and NBBSS was formed, which provided suggestions to NBBSS regarding management of construction.
- When the 225 beneficiaries were identified, they were divided into a cluster of 20 households and NBBSS formed an user group for each, This selection was done by the community members themselves. These groups were responsible for implementation of work in their individual cluster.
- NBBSS assisted in identifying the possible craftsmen from the community.



Figure 21: Field Visit at Haripur



Figure 22: Condition of Houses at present

Resettlement in Perspective of Resilience

- **Social Resilience**

The resettlement lacks nearby schools, requiring residents to travel to the main area in ward no. 5 for government schools and health services. As shared by one of the locals, despite community awareness about the importance of education, the inability to afford proper uniforms results in humiliation from other students, causing children to be reluctant to attend school. However, the settlement has successfully established its own temple, named Dina Bhadri, where they actively participate in cultural events and rituals, showcasing a well-established community identity. Moreover, the plot size is adequate enough to cater social needs of people such that they have their own modifications to original designs which shows flexibility in design and positive perspective of social resilience.

- **Infrastructure and Disaster Resilience**

The lack of a proper boundary to secure the resettlement site has resulted in incidents of fatal elephant attacks. Though boundary wall was promised to be built, it has not been constructed yet so that people are still living in terrified conditions. Moreover, The houses provided were not resilient enough, leading to damage, leakage, and torn roofs, posing difficulties for the inhabitants. Houses were supposed to sustain for more than 15 years as promised earlier but they have been facing many problems in mending them. Presently,

there has been many modifications made to previous constructions. Availability of enough land favors the expansion as well.

- **Economic Resilience**

Despite the availability of land and physical planning, the community faces challenges in accessing economic opportunities. The dependency of 80% of the population on the Koshi Tapu conservation area has been affected by government restrictions, making it challenging to sustain their livelihoods. (about 20% population is dependent on foreign employment; Punjab). There is a poultry farm nearby, but local people are not recruited there. Workers are rather from India. Few locals also shared that their desire to invest in agriculture exists, but the community lacks the necessary capital to do so. Although some training was provided during the construction phase, it was not sufficient for long-term skill development, leaving the community without necessary skills to thrive.

- **Institutional Resilience:**

NGOs and INGOs have not followed through on their commitments, leaving the community feeling let down and seeking further opportunities. The community lacks adequate support from the government in addressing their resettlement concerns and needs.

2.5.3 Resettlement Efforts in Duhabi

The local government has undertaken a significant initiative called the "Nagar Pramukh Awash Yojana" to provide safe housing for vulnerable communities, particularly those who are landless and belong to specific ethnic groups. The program aims to address the housing needs and improve the living conditions of these communities.

Under this program, a total of 80 houses have been specifically designed and allocated for the resettlement of the targeted vulnerable populations with estimated cost of 7,00,000 per household. Local government has claimed that the houses are built with the objective of providing secure and suitable living spaces that meet the unique requirements and cultural considerations of the communities involved. However, it is important to note that the

program is yet to be implemented as the beneficiaries of the houses are yet to be decided. Alongside the pending implementation, there are concerns raised by some potential beneficiaries regarding the connectivity of the housing scheme to their livelihoods.



Figure 23: Resettlement at Duhabi

Identification of Target Group:

- Economically extremely poor, disabled, Dalit, minority, vulnerable, marginalized communities.
- Continuous residence within the Duhabi municipality area from before the month of Chaitra in the year 2052 B.S.
- Those who do not have house and land rights in the name of any member within Nepal.

Note: The term "within the Duhabi municipality area" includes wife, mother, sons, daughters, husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, etc.

Process of Beneficiary Selection:

- Beneficiaries submit applications according to measurement criteria specified for beneficiary selection.
- Evaluation committee reviews the received applications, conducts on-site evaluations, and prepares a list of beneficiaries based on the established criteria.
- Prioritization is carried out based on the established criteria for prioritization.

Basis for Prioritization of Beneficiaries:

Beneficiaries residing within the municipality area without access to housing services are gradually provided housing services through prioritization, based on following indicators:

Table 2: Basis for prioritization of beneficiaries

S.N	Indicator	Basis Weight
1	No house and land in Nepal	40
2	Extremely poor (lacking basic amenities)	30
3	Dalit, Musahar, minority, marginalized, indigenous	10
4	Disabled and disassociated families	5
5	Elderly citizen-only families	5
6	Female-headed single households	5
7	Affected by disaster	5
	Total	100

Based on the obtained scores, beneficiaries will be prioritized for primary housing. This prioritization can be revised by the Coordination and Review Committee after analyzing the current situation.

- Beneficiaries with a score of 90 or above will be prioritized for housing in 'A' category and provided housing in the first year.
- Beneficiaries with a score of 80 or above will be prioritized for housing in 'B' category and provided housing in the second year.
- Beneficiaries with a score of 70 or above will be prioritized for housing in 'C' category and provided housing in the third and fourth years.
- Beneficiaries with a score below 70 will be provided housing in sequence starting from category 'D'.

Call out to applicants: After completion of 80% of construction works, they called out for applications from different wards. Local government is in the process of screening. For instance, In ward no. 10, Around 79 families were eligible for application to Mayor Housing. Upon marking only 21 families have been shortlisted. Many families who had filled the application were unaware that they would have to leave the land they are

currently occupying. Most of them do not want to leave the land their families have been occupying for many generations.

Resilience perspective in Resettlement:

Though the resettlement process has not initiated yet, it can be assessed through lens of resilience based on present status:

Social Resilience:

A notable challenge arises from misinformation and inadequate communication between government authorities and the intended beneficiaries. This has resulted in a situation where a significant number of eligible individuals remain unaware of the housing opportunities intended for them. They have a concept that the project is aimed only for the particular groups belonging from the same ward. The lack of clear and effective communication channels has hindered the dissemination of crucial information, preventing those in need from realizing the available benefits.

Moreover, many people in the community really like where they used to live, and this makes it hard for them to want to move to a new place. They have strong feelings and connections to their old homes, like with their families and friends. This makes them not want to leave and go to a different area. Because of these strong feelings, they would rather stay where they are comfortable, even if there are new and better houses somewhere else. This makes the whole process of moving to a new place complicated and difficult because of how much they care about where they used to live.

Economic Resilience

Due to the fact that the new resettlement is located far away from places where people usually buy things and work, it can negatively affect the local economy. This is because people may have to spend more time and resources to travel to their jobs and markets.

However, there is a plan in place to help address this issue and improve the economic situation. The plan involves setting aside a piece of land where people can collectively raise animals and grow crops. This can be a solution to the problem because it allows people to engage in livelihood activities closer to their new homes. They can raise

livestock and cultivate crops on this land, which can provide them with a source of income and reduce their dependency on distant markets and workplaces.

Infrastructure and Disaster Resilience

The chosen site for the new resettlement is strategically positioned away from the main rivers, which addresses a significant concern related to flooding that was prevalent in the original location. By relocating to a safer location, the community becomes less vulnerable to the devastating impacts of flooding, which can lead to property damage and displacement. This proactive decision to avoid flood-prone areas enhances the disaster resilience of the resettled community.

However, the site's remote location also brings certain challenges in terms of infrastructure and disaster resilience. Being situated far, it also means that there might not be critical infrastructure, such as hospitals, emergency services, and evacuation routes, in close proximity. This lack of nearby infrastructure could potentially hinder the community's ability to respond effectively to disasters or emergencies.

Institutional Resilience:

The process of institutionalization involves the establishment of formal structures, roles, and responsibilities to ensure effective implementation and management of the project. However, the absence of an active body advocating for the marginalized community's interests hinders this process. Without a dedicated entity voicing the concerns of the marginalized community, there is a risk that the project's institutional arrangements may not fully align with the needs and aspirations of those it aims to support. Institutional resilience is closely tied to the engagement of relevant stakeholders, including the marginalized community itself. The absence of proper community and stakeholder engagement signifies a gap in the project's institutional resilience.

2.6 REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL CASES

2.6.1 Resettlement Programs at Ahmedabad

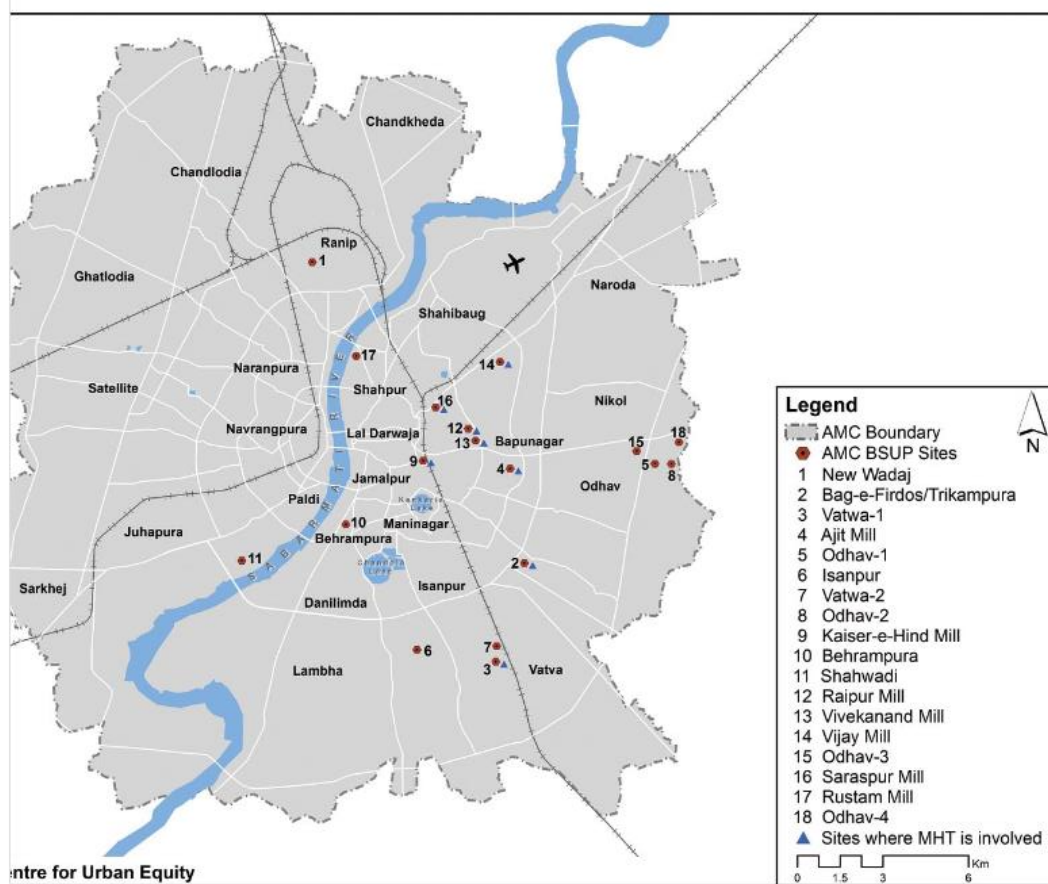


Figure 24: Map of Ahmedabad (Lalbhai et al., 2000)

In the urban agglomeration area of Ahmedabad, the state capital of Gujarat, there were 6.3 million people living in 2011. Since 2006, it has worked on numerous significant infrastructure projects, such as the general road widening, the Sabarmati Riverfront Development (SRFD), and the Bus Rapid Transit System. These projects have led to the relocation and resettlement of nearly 20,000 households—11,000 of which had resided on the riverfront—in more than 18 BSUP sites. The estimated number of dwelling units allotted is known, but it is unknown how many people were left out of the resettlement process due to a variety of factors, such as the absence of an initial survey of the households residing on the original sites, ambiguity surrounding the definition of a household, and a rehabilitation policy that stipulated that each household would be given

one house. Thousands of people who were living in slums in Ahmedabad's city center have been relocated, primarily to the city's eastern periphery.

Process in Resettlement:

AMC attempted to carry out its first eviction on the riverbank in the Paresh na Chapra neighborhood in July 2005. This was in order to construct a new bridge over the river. Initially, a few families received verbal orders to leave their homes. AMC's Estate Department served notices to 21 families a few weeks later, directing them to leave their homes within 21 days. Families who could provide proof of residency from 1976 would also receive "vaikalpik vyavastha," according to the notice. This is a reference to alternative housing, which typically entails a piece of land on the outskirts of the city without tenure security and without access to basic utilities; in other words, it serves as the foundation for new informal settlements within the city.

The "right to shelter and right to work are intimately connected with right to livelihood which is an important element of right to life," according to a number of forces advocating for slum dwellers. The text continued by stating that the right to life of slum dwellers "depends upon their livelihood, which depends upon the work available to them, and their work depends upon the right to shelter in a particular locality. As a result, if they are evicted from their homes and relocated to an area far from their places of employment, they will be deprived of both their right to work and their right to shelter, which will ultimately result in the deprivation of their means of subsistence." Based on different advocacy programs, R&R Policy to the court in mid-2008. The R&R Policy stated the following

- A socio-economic survey (SES) of slums had been undertaken on the riverfront between 1999-2002. According to this, 8000 families would be fully affected by the project and 4000 would be partially affected;
- The fully-affected families would be considered for resettlement under the JnNURM scheme and the partially affected families would be considered on a case to case basis;
- The resettlement dwelling unit would be of 33 sq.m. built up area;

- Along with cost of land, each dwelling unit would cost Rs.4.25 lakhs. Of this 50% cost would be borne by the Government of India (Rs. 2,12,500), 20% by Government of Gujarat (Rs. 85,000) and 30% by AMC and the beneficiary (Rs. 1,27,500). The cost to be borne by the beneficiary would be Rs. 87,000, of which Rs. 17,000 would have to be paid in 12 monthly installments while a soft loan of Rs. 70,000 would be given which would have to be repaid over 10 years;

Resettlement in perspective of Resilience

Social Resilience

A Mumbai-based organization was hired by the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) between 1999 and 2002 to conduct an assessment of the riverfront slums. But at the time, they didn't try to explain the survey to the locals. They did not try to interact with the residents or provide them with a detailed plan of action following the completion of the survey. In the early phases of the program, community involvement was excluded, and residents were subjected to pressure both before and during the relocation process. The disparities in religion, caste, social customs, and previous residence made the residents reluctant to speak with one another. As previously mentioned, the de facto creation of new, diverse communities resulted in a leadership vacuum, a lack of interaction and communication, and alienation. Numerous conflicts emerged due to differences in the community, individual issues, and dissatisfaction, originating from the sense of being uprooted from their ancestral home. The establishment of social stability and the persuasion and unification of residents to form RWAs within these sites has proven to be a challenging undertaking for MHT.

Economic Resilience:

People used to be told to move, and there were no initial plans to help them find new sources of income. Following their relocation to the locations, residents became uneasy due to the lack of basic amenities. Residents of the community were not involved in the planning stages, which meant that some site modifications or additions were required. Many people's livelihoods were impacted because there weren't many other employment options close to the majority of these sites. Many were forced to make the lengthy trek

back to their original jobs, which were close to the river. People had to contend with mobility issues, increased housing costs, and dangerous surroundings while relocating far away. Government officials should have realistically assessed the financial capacity of households before planning basic service provision and maintenance over an extended period of time. Planning ought to have been completed prior to the start of housing interventions.

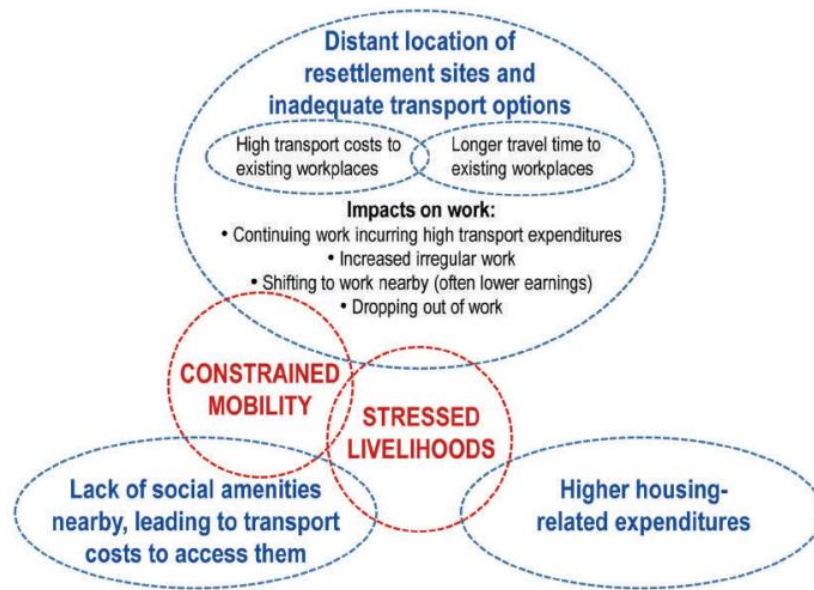


Figure 25: Impact on Mobility and livelihoods

Infrastructural resilience:

These locations presented issues for women and other vulnerable groups because they lacked security and safety. Residents who had been relocated kept identifying with their original riverfront neighborhoods. People were slow to adjust to the new reality. Basic amenities and services were not expressly provided. Chalk markings were used at Sites and Services in 2005 to depict the plots just prior to family relocation.



Figure 26: Sites and Services in 2005

Sometime after the relocation was finished, the community mobilization process started. Legally speaking, resident welfare associations (RWAs), which are common in Ahmedabad, are cooperative housing societies. The Mahila Housing SEWA Trust's (MHT) role in establishing the mandatory resident welfare associations (RWAs) in eight of these resettlement sites, as well as the challenges MHT encountered in persuading residents to adhere to the numerous time-consuming protocols that were required. The lack of social networks or leadership structures in the resettlement sites as a result of the housing allocation process, which did not keep neighbors or communities together, was one constraint. Another was the mistrust that locals had for the government agencies. The city government's goal for the RWAs was to transfer the costs, and management duties of the resettlement sites to these associations rather than to encourage participatory governance or help improve the lives of those who had been resettled (Lalbai et al., 2000).

2.6.2 Resettlement of the Orang Asli

The "vulnerable segments of society," or those who are frequently in danger and experience poverty due to uncontrollable circumstances, are referred to as the OA. The high rate of poverty in the OA community today is its biggest issue. In many countries, OA communities are among the poorest. They are largely marginalized, and their language and culture are vanishing quickly. The preservation of their culture and language, land ownership, the ownership and exploitation of natural resources, political and autonomous issues, environmental pollution, poverty, discrimination, and health are among the issues that the OA community faces. The economic development programmes in the interior (on the fringes or interior of the jungles) will jeopardize the socio-economy, cultural and livelihood of the OA if no appropriate actions taken by government (Abdullah et al., 2015).

The development programmes for the OA community is directly under the management and administration of JAKOA. Three programmes for the development of the OA are: 1) Structured Resettlement Programme (SRP); 2) Economic Development Programme (EDP); and 3) Social Development Programme (SDP).

Desa Temuan was set up in 2002 after Malaysian Land Development acquired the land traditionally used by the tribe for urban development comprising of mostly high-rise residential and office development. The residents had moved to this area for agriculture and forest roaming activities after they moved from Bukit Nenas in the middle of Kuala Lumpur. To ensure the Orang Asli be able to continue their livelihood in the area, MK Land, and the Selangor State Department allocated 18 hectares of land for their new settlements. It consists of 147 units of bungalows, given to each household, with community facilities such as multipurpose hall, shop houses, surau, and school and Orang Asli mini museum. Besides, 130 units of an apartment were given to eligible children who were still single. Some lands were provided to the Orang Asli while MK Land also provided for trust funds and scholarships to the community (Pah Rokiah Syed Hussain et al., n.d.).



Figure 27: Site plan of Desa Temuan. (Abdullah et al., 2015)

Government Programs in Improving the living Standards of Orang Asli Community:

The government has put in place a number of initiatives to raise the Orang Asli community's level of living. These initiatives consist of the New Village Program (NVP), Rubber Plantation (RP), and Village Resettlement Program (VRP). By giving them access to contemporary utilities and the chance to participate in modern economic activities like cultivating rubber and palm oil, the RP and VRP have contributed to improving the Orang Asli people's standard of living. The NVP was created specifically for the Orang Asli villages in KESBAN districts that border Thailand (Pah Rokiah Syed Hussain et al., n.d.).

Social Development Programme (SDP)

Enhancing the standard of living for members of the OA community who reside in remote areas and on the periphery is the aim of this program. First, education support; second, housing for the impoverished; third, infrastructure and social amenities; fourth, mindset modification; fifth, family development; and sixth, health development are the six

components of SDP. The government set aside about RM 337.3 million to carry out the RP, EDP, and SDP programs under the Ninth Malaysian Plan (2006–2010). With RM250 million, or 53.3 percent of the total allotted under the Ninth Malaysian Plan, the SDP received the largest allocation. Total original allocation for SDP was RM 158.3 million, an increase of RM91.7 million was given through the Economic Package 1 that was used for: 1) housing aid for the poor and hardcore poor (66.5 million), 2) village roads (RM12.9 million), and 3) agriculture roads (RM12 million). From 2008 to 2010, RM20 million was allocated for Pocket Money, Transport, Food Basket, Input Agriculture, Insufficient Food Vitamin Programme (Pah Rokiah Syed Hussain et al., n.d.).

Economic Development Programme (EDP)

The program's goals are to raise the OA community's income (lower their level of poverty) and diversify their sources of income. The EDP consists of four main projects: 1) planting vegetables as a cash crop (kontan); 2) husbandry projects (goats, cows, sheep, and fish); 3) planting rubber and palm oil; and 4) developing businesses for the OA community. The entrepreneurs involved will receive management and entrepreneurship guidance from appointed technical agencies (Pah Rokiah Syed Hussain et al., n.d.).

CHAPTER 3. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK AND METHODOLOGY

The conceptual framework provides a structured approach to analyze the resilience factor incorporated in resettlement policies and develop recommendations for resilient strategies focused on marginalized community. It integrates key elements such as policies, resilience theory, marginalized populations, resettlement strategies, resilience indicators, data collection, analysis, and the formulation of findings and recommendations. By following this framework, the research can provide valuable insights and actionable recommendations for policymakers and practitioners to enhance the resilience of resettlement efforts.

The conceptual framework for this study is designed to guide the exploration of community resilience and resettlement strategies for vulnerable populations. It provides a comprehensive framework that integrates key concepts, variables, and relationships to understand the factors influencing community resilience and the effectiveness of resettlement strategies.

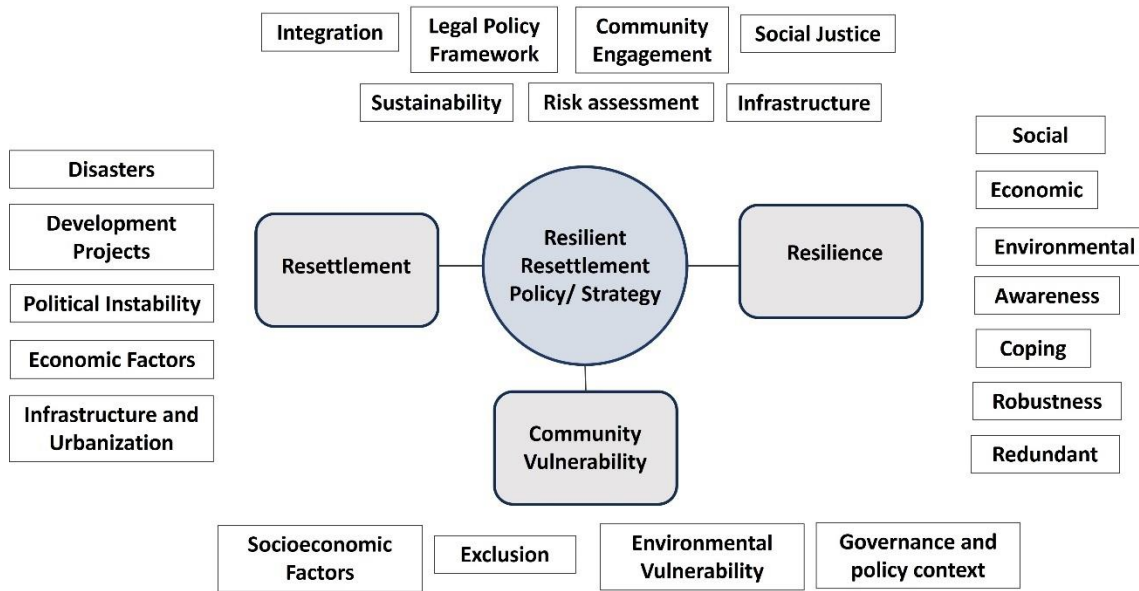


Figure 28: Conceptual Framework of the Study

3.1 RESEARCH PARADIGM

The research paradigm for this study is a pragmatic paradigm that can provide a framework for understanding resettlement policy practices and addressing the challenges faced by vulnerable populations in resettlement efforts to derive the solution in prospect of resilience. The pragmatic paradigm is a philosophical approach to research that emphasizes the importance of practical outcomes. It is based on the belief that the value of research is determined by its ability to solve problems and improve people's lives (Creswell & David Creswell, n.d.). It emphasizes the application of research findings to address real-world issues and aims to generate actionable knowledge that can lead to practical solutions. The study would adopt mixed method approach as qualitative data could be gathered through interviews or focus group discussions with the resettled population and relevant stakeholders while quantitative data could be collected through surveys or assessments of infrastructure. Besides, the study is problem based as in this research, the focus would be on understanding the specific issues and constraints faced by vulnerable populations in Biratnagar's resettlement initiatives and exploring strategies to enhance the resilience of these efforts. It ensures a problem-solving and action-oriented approach that addresses the practical challenges faced by vulnerable populations.

Ontology:

Ontology refers to the researcher's understanding of the nature of reality and existence (Creswell & David Creswell, n.d.). In this research, there are tangible and measurable aspects of resilience and resettlement strategies that can be studied and understood. In the context of resettlement, resilience refers to the ability of a vulnerable population to adapt to a new environment and maintain their livelihoods after they move. The ontological claim of the study is that through understanding the socially constructed nature of resilience and resettlement strategies, valuable insights and recommendations can be generated to improve the outcomes and experiences of vulnerable populations. The ontology adopted in this study views the community as an active agent and acknowledges the agency of vulnerable populations in shaping their own resilience and participating in the design and implementation of resettlement strategies. Based on the theories of resettlement, resilience of the resettled community changes post resettlement. The research

acknowledges that community resilience and resettlement strategies emerge from social processes, collective actions, and shared meanings among community members.

Epistemology:

Epistemology deals with what can be considered as a valid knowledge to claim the ontological assumption(Creswell & David Creswell, n.d.). The epistemological stance of this study is the resettlement strategies and community resilience of vulnerable population can be obtained from qualitative interpretation of the interaction between researcher and participants. The study is primarily constructivist, aiming to understand the subjective experiences, meanings, and social constructions of vulnerability and resettlement and community resilience.

The epistemology of this emphasizes the subjective understanding and interpretation of social phenomena. In this research, qualitative methods such as interviews, observations, and document analysis will be employed to gather rich and nuanced data on resilience and resettlement strategies in the context of Biratnagar. The aim is to capture the lived experiences, perspectives, and narratives of community members and stakeholders to gain a deeper understanding of their challenges, perceptions, and responses. It recognizes that knowledge is socially constructed through interactions, interpretations, and negotiations among individuals and groups(Creswell & David Creswell, n.d.). The research seeks to explore the multiple perspectives of stakeholders involved in the post-disaster experiences and understand the ways in which these perspectives shape policy outcomes and practices.

3.2 RESEARCH STRATEGY:

Case Study Research

The research adopts the Case study approach as a strategy that can be used to bridge the gap between theory and practice by offering empirical evidence and insights that can inform and refine theoretical frameworks. This approach contributes to a better understanding of how theory translates into real-world contexts. Here, the research focuses on single case of Biratnagar that aims to understand complex phenomena, such as individual experiences, social processes, organizational practices, or policy implementations, by examining them in their real-life context. This case provides detailed

and contextualized insights into the dynamics, interactions, and factors that influence the phenomenon under investigation.

3.3 RESEARCH DESIGN

3.3.1 Methodology:

The methodology for this research involves a mixed-methods approach, combining qualitative and quantitative methods to gather comprehensive data and gain a deeper understanding of the research topic. The primary research method is a qualitative case study, focusing on Biratnagar-12 as the specific case of investigation. Additionally, quantitative data was collected to complement and support the qualitative findings.

3.3.2 Method:

Data Collection

Data collection techniques of qualitative research were used for this study such as Participant Observation, and Key Informants Interviews. In participant observation, the researcher has to immerse themselves in the setting where the respondents are, while taking notes and/or recording. For observation, a checklist related to site topography, physical infrastructures, open spaces, usability of public amenities, construction technology of the residential building and nearby hazard sources had been prepared. Photography, video recording, sketches were also made in the site.

The unstructured questionnaire was developed for the key informants of the area. Some unstructured interviews were also taken from the local residents. The data were triangulated with the different views obtained from the users, local committee representatives and municipality chairperson. Moreover, softwares like atlas.ti was used for coding and creating words cloud in the qualitative analysis.

In the quantitative side, survey has been used as a data collection technique. Survey is a data collection process where data or statistics on a subset of the population of interest is collected by asking people questions for which questionnaire was prepared. There are two major types of surveys: questionnaire-based survey and interview-based survey. In this study, household questionnaire-based survey as well as Interview based survey had been

used and also the interviews has been recorded in the phone directly by the interviewer during personal interviews. The questionnaire survey has been carried out using Kobo Toolkit. The Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) computer software was used to analyze data. The findings were then displayed in the form of chart, graphs, bar etc. to communicate with the people and finally some conclusions were drawn based on those findings.

Likewise, secondary data were collected from official records, previous studies and other relevant publications such as reports, books, journals, maps etc

Sampling frame

For the analysis of resilience in resettlement practices, different policy related documents have been reviewed by consulting the experts in the field and extracting documents from various government websites.

To examine different level of participation in the case area using household survey and key informant interview, a set of steps were taken:

- i) Questions were constructed based on frameworks of resilience in resettlement of community developed through literature review. The questions were put into the Kobo Humanitarian Response toolbox.
- ii) The questionnaire set was examined and revised after consultation with Thesis Supervisor, Dr. Jagadish Chandra Pokharel.
- iii) The survey was carried out on the field for a week.
- iv) Of the approximately 145 plots in the case area, 49 had houses built in them. And most of the houses were being used. Of these 49 houses, sample of 21 houses were taken at random with consideration to cover diverse cases.
- v) Key Informant Interviews were taken after the household survey was complete.
- vi) The questions used in the household survey and key informant interviews are present in the annex of this document.

Data Sources

Data sources are defined as the source of raw bills and information gathered for the study purpose, to obtain the proper findings/result based on proper data and facts. The different qualitative and quantitative data sources can be divided formally into primary and secondary, based on the type and quality of data they provide. In this research, mixed method approach for data sources had to be carried out due to diverse study and case area.

Basic traditional methods of primary data collection adopted are:

- Direct personnel interviews
- Key informant interview
- Questionnaires (Household survey)
- Observations

The secondary data collection techniques were also adopted such as:

- Review and study of similar resettlement projects and cases.
- Geographical information and base map through related survey departments and project personal.
- Socio-economic, cultural, and physical quantitative data retrieved from local governments.
- Ethics and principles studied and gathered through literatures and study.

3.3.3 Ethical Considerations:

Ethical considerations was taken into account throughout the research process, ensuring informed consent, confidentiality, and the protection of participants' rights. Research ethics guidelines was followed. This research is mainly based on social survey where we try to find the characteristics of a sample of people and attempt to gain some insight into the possible causes of certain phenomena. The survey was conducted in a convivial environment, without any intimidation or discrimination based on race, ethnicity, sexuality, gender, religion, disability, age, or any other base.

Table 3: Methods and sources

Methodologies	Method/sources of information
Literature review	Secondary data from the documents published online and in bookform
Case study	Primary data from field study, KIIs and FGDs, secondary data from the published literature
Consultation sessions/brainstorming sessions	Consultative meetings, brainstorming (KII, FGDs) session with the experts

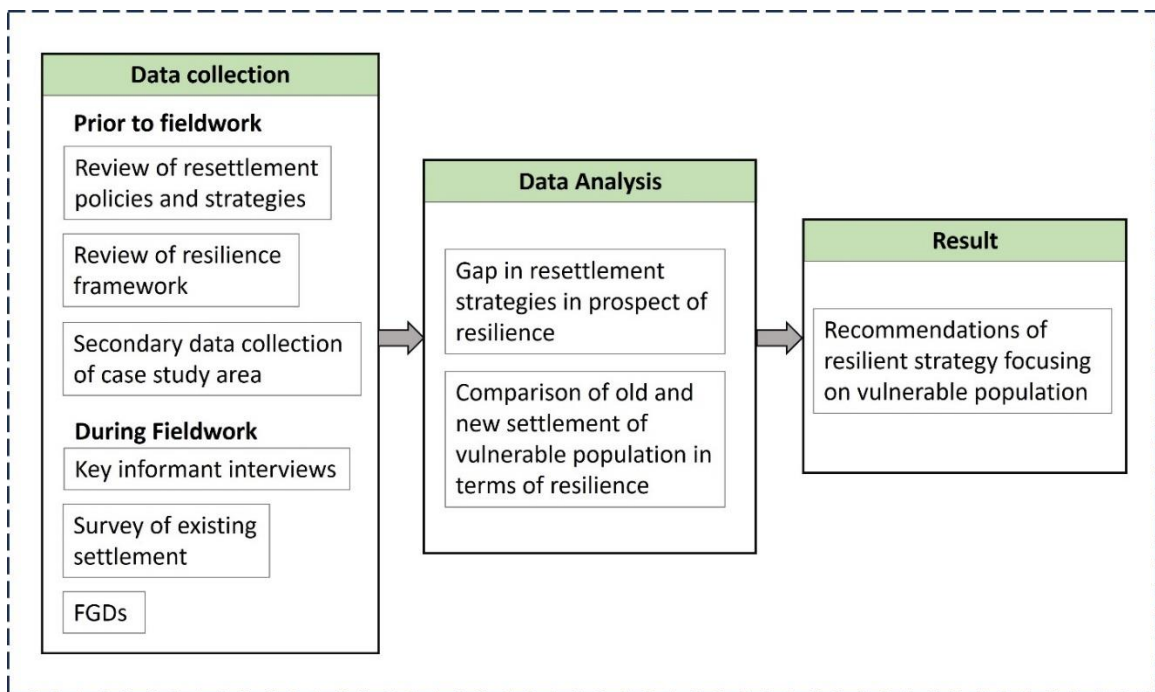


Figure 29: Research Process

CHAPTER 4. CASE STUDY AREA

Overview of Biratnagar

Biratnagar Metropolitan City lies in Morang district of Koshi Province in Nepal. Located on the southwest border of Morang district, the city is connected to Jogwani Pass in India. The city is spread over a flat land, connected to Fatahari and Jahda districts in the east and the Indian border in the south. Biratnagar is a leading city due to its crucial role in infrastructural development of Koshi Province.

Historical Significance

‘Birat’ referred to as huge and ‘nagar’ as city, Biratnagar was named as a large city in Nepali. Biratnagar was previously known as Gograha Bazar. Colonel Jit Bahadur Khatri, the district governor at the time, set the groundwork for modern Biratnagar by relocating the hospital, post office, jail, and customs, land registry, forestry, and auditor offices from Rangeli to Gograha Bazar. As historical artifacts thought to date from King Virata's reign were discovered there, Biratnagar received its current name in 1919 AD (about 1976 BS) from Keshar Shamsher Rana. The area is thought to be a component of the Mahabharata-mentioned Virata kingdom. In the southern area, there are preserved palace ruins as well as stone-carved tools, idols, and domestic items.

Social Fabric

Though the ethnic composition of the city is dominated by Pahadi Bramhi and Chhetris followed by Muslims and Yadav of Terai region. Other ethnic groups visible include Kewat, Newar, Teli, Dhanuk, Rajwansi and Tharu. There are large proportion of marginalized communities with limited access to resources. Terai ethnic communities mainly Muslims, Rajwansi, Kewat, Dhanuk and Tharus are marginalized community with limited access to resources like land, education, employment opportunities and political powers despite their visible presence in the city.

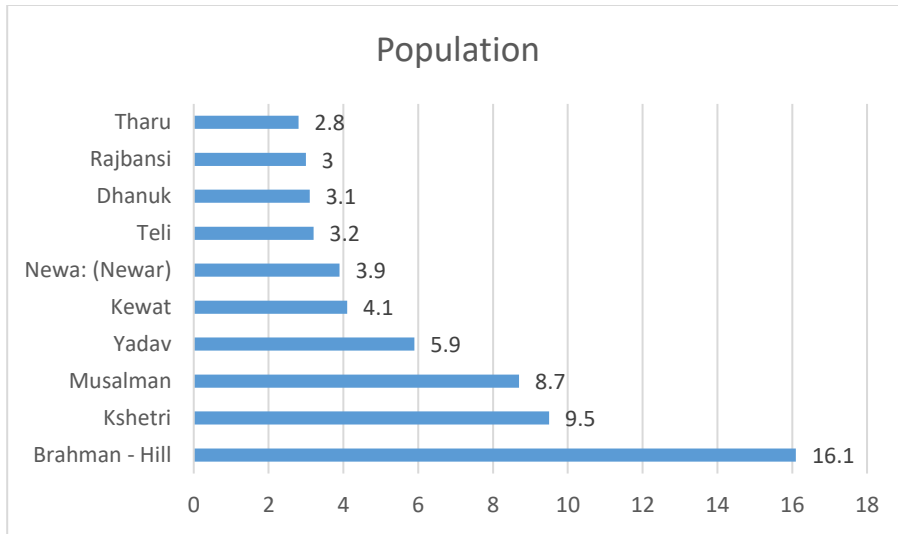


Figure 30: Population by ethnicity of BMC, Census 2021

Economy

According to a household survey published in the digital municipal profile of Biratnagar Metropolitan City, wholesale and retail trade (27,150) is the most common source of income, with the majority of individuals also involved in agriculture (15,388). In terms of trade, it appears that due to the open border between Nepal and India, local products will face competition from Indian items. However, the marginalized local groups of people are limited mostly to agriculture, manufacturing and other labor works.

Disaster Risks

Biratnagar Metropolitan Municipality is very sensitive to disasters. Here there are major disasters such as floods, fires, road accidents, animal cruelty, cold waves, windstorms, earthquakes, diseases in animals and crops, snakebites, lightning, hail, epidemics, and electrical accidents. The riverside settlements are at risk due to the floods of Singhia and Keshalia rivers, while there are many people living in the small bamboo and straw huts, which are prone to fire incidents and extensive physical and economic damage has been caused to the people.

4.1 STUDY OF SAMPANNA BASTI AT BIRATNAGAR:

Background

Due to its vulnerability to frequent flooding, Biratnagar-12 often experiences destructive disasters that disrupt the lives of its inhabitants and damage their living environment. In response, the local government and various non-governmental organizations (NGOs) would offer assistance by providing temporary accommodation in a community building for several weeks. However, this solution left the marginalized communities, who were already disadvantaged, living in deteriorating conditions within makeshift shelters. In an effort to aid these vulnerable populations, a collaborative initiative involving the local government, NGOs, and international NGOs (INGOs) was launched.

Initially, houses were constructed in ward no. 19 to provide shelter for 32 landless households facing annual flooding due to their low-lying location. The construction involved onsite rearrangement of houses and plots, with collaboration between Habitat for Humanity and Sahara Nepal, and labor contribution from each household. However, due to the municipality's lack of land ownership, the households didn't gain landownership and remained landless. Although plans were made for similar approaches in other areas, the project's progress halted due to lack of further planning and government inconsistencies. The municipality aspires to create settlements for 500 households in 10 bigha in ward no. 19, envisioning a model satellite village for squatter resettlement. While the projects require substantial investments, efforts are ongoing to secure funding. Learning from the past, the municipality partnered with Jiban Bikash Samaj to provide loans for households to purchase their own land.

4.1.1 Site study area: Old Settlement

4.1.2 Context:

Most of the beneficiaries of the new settlement are originally from Bakhari and Malhanawa that lie within Ward No. 12 of Biratnagar Metropolitan City. The areas around these settlements experience recurring flooding almost every year due to the Keshalya River. The population of this region is characterized by a diverse array of ethnic groups,

including Tharus, Kamats, and Rajbansis. Among these, Musahars constitute the predominant group, inhabiting lands informally known as "ailani."

Historically, a significant number of Musahars migrated from Rangeli in India to this area to work as laborers for local landowners. Over time, the landowners have sold off parcels of land even as the Musahar community continues to reside there. While some still inhabit ailani land, others have settled on public lands. This situation has resulted in a marginalized segment of society living along the streets and in close proximity to the rivers, making them particularly susceptible to the annual flooding.

Unfortunately, these marginalized communities face severe resource limitations and are systematically excluded from social, economic, and political opportunities. This marginalization has contributed to their persistent lag in various aspects of development.

4.1.3 Site Observations

Social Condition:

Access to education has been made better in recent years for the Musahar community. The government school nearby like Bakhari Adharbhut Bidhyalaya and Janata Adharbhut Bidhyalaya, the communities provide basic education to the children- including free education, lunch, stationary, and uniform. There is no discrimination against girls and boys for education. In fact, it is a common practice for young boys to go work as a laborer, leaving school. children have to look after the cattle, goats, pigs and other house works in the morning and afternoon. Musahar boys and girls are good in the study at beginning, but after some time they begin to loose because of poverty and careless of their parents. Some residents who have acquired education up to grade 10 are still bound to be limited to work in taking care of animals with no substantial increase in wages compared to counterparts without education. The condition of health is also better compared to previous years. There are basic health services available through local health posts and female health volunteers. The roads are good enough for ambulances, in case of emergencies. Likewise, vaccinations and supplements for the infants have been well provided by the municipality. The residents often suffer from snake bites and the nearest hospital for that is Koshi Hospital.

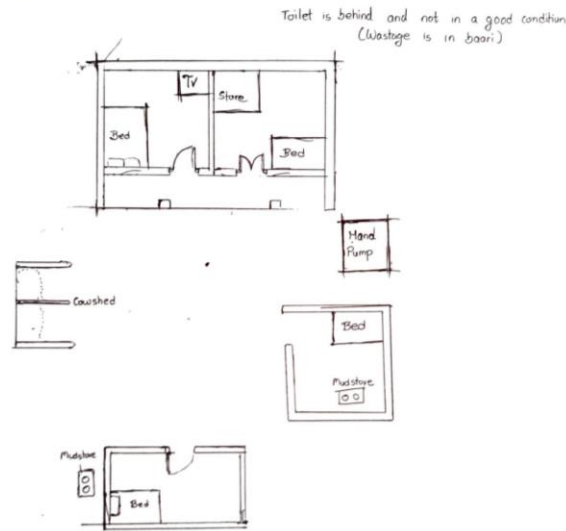


Figure 31: Sketch of layout of houses at old settlement



Figure 32: Houses at Bakhari

Structure of Household

The houses are generally made of wood, straw, and bamboo, khar and plastered by mud. The walls are made up of bamboo mesh - plastered on both sides with mud. The Musahars build their house close to each other and generally don't make windows. There are no more than two rooms in each housing unit and the number of family members residing in one housing unit of around 15 ft x 10 ft is generally not less than 3. The corners are used as kitchen and passage in between as bedroom, living room or dining room. Musahar's house roof generally comprises of khar and supportive poles are made of tree trunks. One monogamous family sleeps in one single room. After the son gets married, Musahars

generally construct another house. Oftentimes, family members share their rooms with their livestock- especially baby goats. However, there are places in Malhanawa, where people are still living in dilapidated households. Annual floods result in the destruction of these houses. While some residents have moved to new settlements, many households in the old settlement continue to live in dire conditions. These families face challenges due to a lack of proper documents and financial instability, preventing them from repairing their deteriorating homes. As a result, they continue to reside in these suboptimal conditions.

Livelihood and Economic Opportunities

The major source of income for the communities is working as a labor in agriculture, industry, or sand extraction. Men are mostly engaged in hard labor, while women take part in easier jobs in agriculture. In household, female members are engaged in works such as animal husbandry and wage earning, making Chatai, Dhaki (bamboo basket) etc. Some are in services in others' houses nearby the study area. People who have some money go for foreign employment to India and UAE by taking some loan from landlords. Oftentimes, the Musahars become victims of cheating by the contractors who pay less than previously agreed.

There is a general lack of financial education in the community. There seems to be a lack of long term thinking about economic development and improvement in living standard. The people earn for a few days, leave their employment, spend the money- survive on what has been earned and search for new employment. The cycle continues. Apart from trapping the community in a vicious cycle of sustenance economy, this phenomenon is likely to cause trust-issues against the community from the perspective of employers.

4.1.4 Site Study area: New Settlement

Sampanna Basti:



Figure 33: Aerial View of Sampanna Basti

The new settlement is situated in Biratnagar ward no. 12. The total land area of 3 bigha and 16 kattha has been segregated for the settlement to accommodate housing for 145 households. Each household gets an area of 10 dhur among which house is constructed in 7 dhur and 3 dhur is segregated for road. The additional facilities to be incorporated in the plan includes health centre, child development centre and a community building.

In this study, the case area is the Sampanna Basti in Biratnagar-12, which was designed in cooperation with Biratnagar Metropolitan and development partners. It was intended to resettle squatter settlements, primarily inhabited by marginalized people living along Bakhari and Malhanwa in Biratnagar. The resettlement at Sampanna Basti is an initiative to relocate those marginalized people living in flood prone area, designed to provide housing and land to the landless marginalized community.



Figure 34:: Map showing linkages of New Settlement

4.1.5 Stakeholders Involved:

Biratnagar Metropolitan City

Biratnagar Metropolitan City (BMC) holds a pivotal position in driving the execution and successful implementation of the project. The multifaceted responsibilities of BMC span across the entire project lifecycle, showcasing their comprehensive involvement in various aspects. Starting with the initial stages, BMC is tasked with identifying and selecting beneficiaries who will benefit from the resettlement initiative. This involves a careful assessment to ensure that those most in need are prioritized for the housing project. Furthermore, BMC takes on the crucial role of approving planning and design elements. This includes the layout and structure of the housing units, ensuring that they meet the necessary standards for quality and functionality.

Another significant dimension of BMC's role is the facilitation of livelihood opportunities for the resettled individuals. Moreover, the municipality assumes the vital responsibility of monitoring and evaluating the project's progress. This ongoing oversight helps ensure that the project stays on track, meets its objectives, and addresses any challenges that may arise. Regular assessment allows for timely adjustments and improvements, ultimately

enhancing the overall outcomes of the resettlement initiative. To support these efforts, BMC has allocated a substantial budget of approximately Rs. 1,00,00,000 for the project in the previous fiscal year. This financial commitment underscores the municipality's dedication to the success of the initiative and its determination to create a positive impact on the lives of the marginalized community members.

Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity (HfH) assumes a critical role in offering essential technical support to the project, contributing to its successful execution. The organization's involvement spans various key areas that collectively enhance the overall resettlement initiative. One of the primary responsibilities of HfH is to oversee the planning, plotting, and designing aspects of the entire settlement area. This entails careful consideration of the layout, infrastructure, and overall design of the housing units to ensure that they meet the required standards of safety, functionality, and aesthetics. In addition to their role in shaping the physical aspects of the settlement, HfH also plays a crucial social role. The organization provides dedicated social mobilizers who actively engage with the community throughout the project's duration. These mobilizers act as intermediaries between the project implementation team and the beneficiaries, facilitating effective communication, addressing concerns, and ensuring that the needs and voices of the resettled individuals are heard and taken into account. Furthermore, as per triparty agreement between BMC, HfH and Provincial Assembly Member, HfH extends financial support by providing a significant contribution of Rs. 1,00,000 to each household. As per the coordinator of HfH Rajiv Verma, till date HfH has contributed amount of Rs. 1 lakhs and 95 thousands to each households. They have adopted CBFT technique promoting usage of bamboo structure in the construction. This financial assistance is instrumental in empowering the beneficiaries and supporting their transition to the new settlement. The funds can be utilized by the households to cover various expenses, including setting up their new homes, establishing livelihood opportunities, and addressing any immediate needs they may have.

This collaborative effort between HfH and the other stakeholders reflects a holistic approach aimed at ensuring the success and sustainability of the resettlement project. Through their active participation, Habitat for Humanity contributes to creating a better

future for the marginalized community members by providing them with not only physical shelter but also the necessary tools for self-improvement and empowerment.

Jiban Bikash Samaj

Jiban Bikash Samaj (JBS) has a pivotal role in the comprehensive execution of the project, with a range of responsibilities aimed at ensuring financial credibility to the successful implementation of the resettlement initiative. JBS plays a significant role in the critical aspect of land acquisition and management for the resettlement project by providing loan to each households. Every household pays regular installment for 5 years to finally acquire the land. The responsibility of JBS entails securing suitable plots of land where the new housing units will be constructed. JBS navigates the intricacies of land acquisition, ensuring legal compliance, negotiation, and proper documentation to establish the settlement's foundation on a solid footing. One of the key roles undertaken by JBS involves a close partnership with Provincial Assembly member Kedar Karki. This collaborative effort is centered around identifying suitable squatter settlements that are favourable for house construction. Moreover, as a microfinance entity, JBS extends its involvement beyond physical infrastructure. It actively engages in the economic upliftment and empowerment of the beneficiaries. JBS is instrumental in generating livelihood opportunities for the resettled individuals, thereby fostering economic self-sufficiency and stability within the community. These training initiatives are designed to equip the beneficiaries with essential skills, knowledge, and tools that enhance their prospects for social stability and financial independence.

SAHARA-Nepal

SAHARA-Nepal, an NGO, has been actively engaged in this transformative project, collaborating closely with impoverished and marginalized individuals as an implementing partner. The primary focus of SAHARA-Nepal is directed towards uplifting the quality of life for a diverse range of beneficiaries. These include women, indigenous communities, children, marginal farmers, daily wage laborers, and individuals facing challenging circumstances.

One noteworthy aspect of SAHARA-Nepal's approach is its provision of training programs. These initiatives empower individuals with practical skills, such as masonry, enabling them to actively contribute to the construction of their own homes. They have also collaborated with other INGOs to distribute different relief materials like 'Food for Shelter'. By imparting these skills, SAHARA-Nepal equips beneficiaries with a tangible means of improving their living conditions and fostering self-reliance. Additionally, as per a coordinator, Indra Kamat from SAHARA-Nepal, they have tried to place a strong emphasis on women's empowerment. Recognizing the pivotal role that women play in community development, the organization is actively involved in initiatives that empower and uplift women, enabling them to take on leadership roles and make meaningful contributions to society. Concurrently, SAHARA-Nepal endeavors to raise public awareness on various pertinent issues, fostering a well-informed and engaged community that can collectively drive positive change.

4.1.6 Process of Resettlement

1. Preparation of Guidance Strategy Paper and development of forms

A document was prepared by BMC based on the guidelines prepared in 2075. BMC. Based on the context, the guidelines document for this particular project was prepared in collaboration with HfH.

2. Signing of tri-party agreement among BMC, Habitat for Humanity and Province

Bamboo construction has been the traditional way of building homes in this region of the country. Given the constraints of limited budget for construction of individual units, this is further affected by the fact that availability of conventional low cost materials such as hollow cement blocks is next to impossible in the area, thus has proved to be expensive. Habitat for Humanity-Nepal (HfH-N), an international nongovernmental organization has developed the cost effective building technology using treated bamboo. This INGO has worked with poor communities in Nepal, by providing low cost shelter to them. The bamboo construction technology involved a system prefabricated bamboo panels for walling, which have proved to be very effective cost effective technology.

3. Purchase of land for the proposed resettlement

Based on previous learning, there was an initiation to actually relocate landless marginalized communities so that they could own their own land in long run. For this purpose, it was crucial to buy chunks of land. BMC in collaboration with finance, Jiban Bikash Samaj which had been working actively for marginalized communities bought the land for people. The land is under ownership of all residents, but they have to pay monthly installments for certain periods of time. With this initiative to bestow the land to beneficiaries, overall process of purchasing land was carried out. Through this the area of 3 bigha-16 katha land was selected and purchased. This information was shared with all the concerned stakeholders including the possible beneficiaries.

4. Development of a process to identify the beneficiaries

The project had a specific target audience: individuals from ward no. 12 who faced landlessness, flood-related hardships, marginalization, and economic challenges. Among the marginalized groups, priority was given to those living near the road, directly affected by floods, and in genuine need. The selection process took into account their economic status and submitted documentation. Initially, beneficiaries were chosen based on strict criteria. Once the designated beneficiaries were identified and if there was surplus land available, the opportunity was extended to those without homes who were currently residing in rented accommodations. This approach involved the collaboration of both local government and Jiban Bikash Samaj to ensure the rightful selection of suitable candidates.

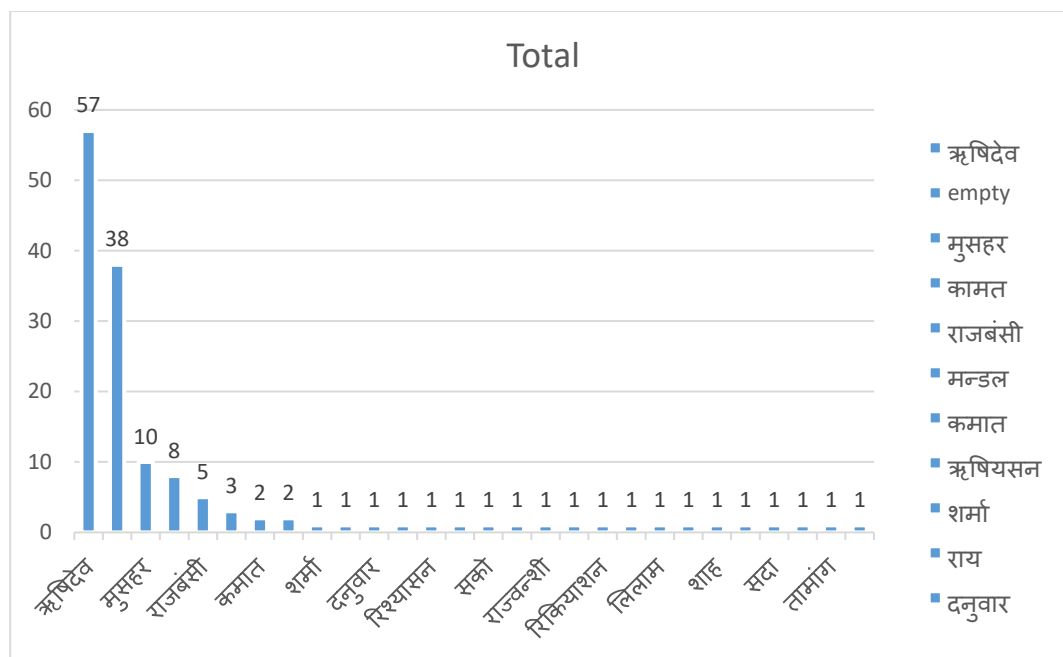


Figure 35: Beneficiaries by Ethnicity

5. Finalization of design for the shelter model

Considering the consultation with technical personals of HfH-N, the design for the shelter model was finalized. The information gathered were also incorporated while finalizing the design. The design was also shared with the partners in presence of representatives of the political parties to get their consensus and go ahead with the preparation of the material for implementation. Besides, events for demonstrations of real life model of houses was also carried out for the beneficiaries so that they could visualize their houses completely.

6. Selection of SAHARA-Nepal as the local partner

To emphasis on the important aspect of the implementation and community participation, SAHARA-Nepal was selected as an implementating partner. Training programs on masonry, different relief distribution programs and project management was given to them to further strengthen their organization.

7. Role of Beneficiaries:



Figure 36: Bamboo as Building Material



Figure 37: Platform of bamboo raised for plinth



Figure 38: Raised Plinth levels



Figure 39: Bamboo Frame structure

To foster a sense of ownership, beneficiaries were actively engaged in every step of the process, including planning, design, and consultation. While the houses were constructed for them, they were required to independently purchase the land and make monthly installments of Rs. 7000. To introduce the community to bamboo technology, the partners initiated masonry training programs. A user committee was established to promote local involvement, ensuring a strong sense of community engagement. This approach not only encouraged active participation but also led to a reduction in labor costs, as local residents contributed their own labor. Each household was obligated to assign one family member as a labor contributor for the construction, while the remaining members would receive

compensation for their involvement. This strategy not only facilitated the construction process but also created a fair and inclusive approach to labor distribution within the community.

Planning of the settlement

The planning consists of 145 equally allotted plot sizes. There is a 6 m wide main road and 5 m wide side roads. A buffer setback of 30 metres is segregated from the planning. A communal space has been proposed at the site which would accommodate all communal activities.

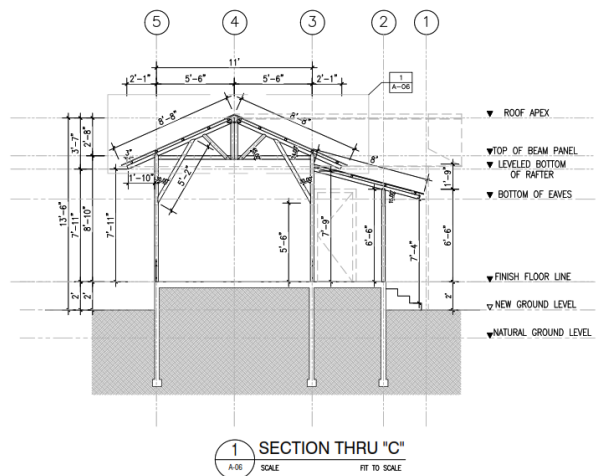
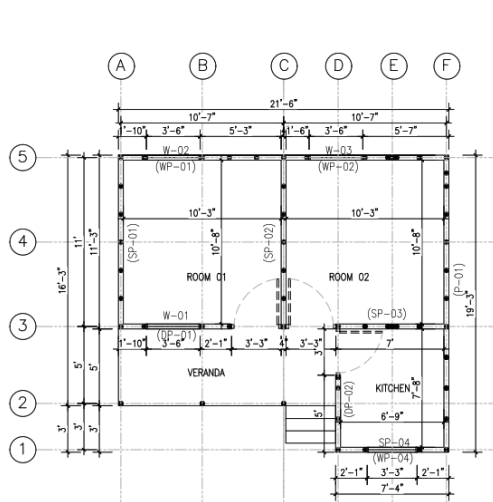
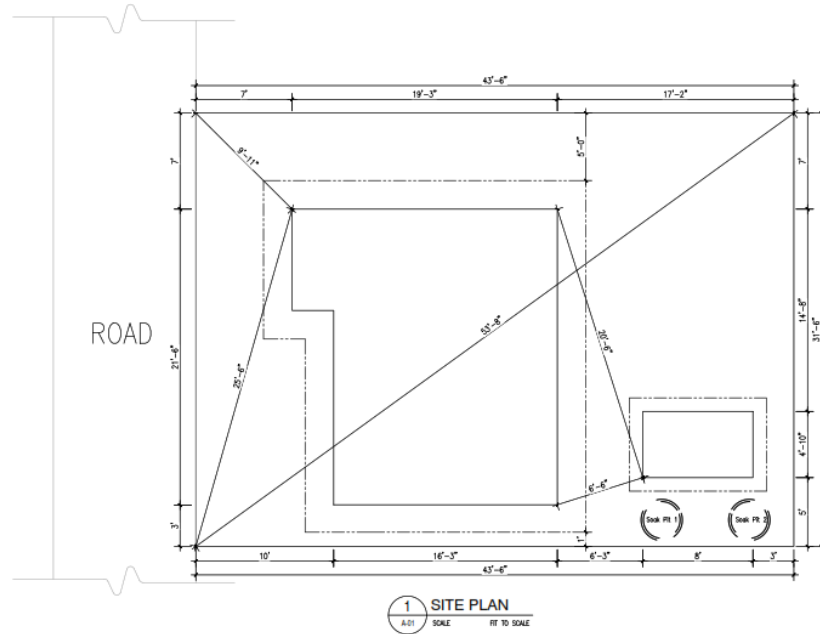


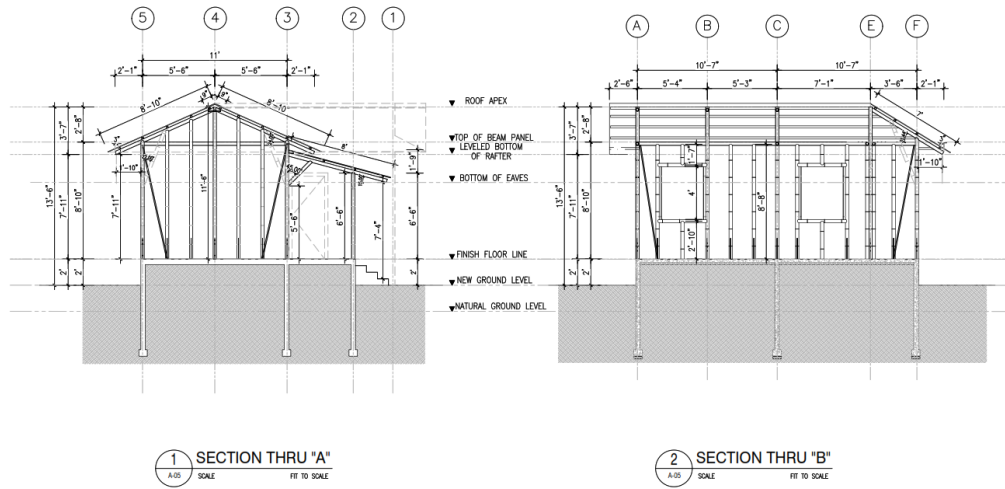
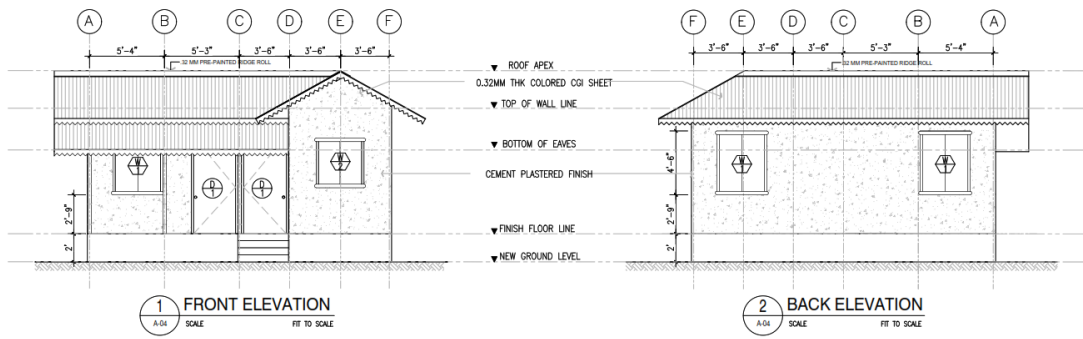
Figure 40: Site Plan

Plan of houses:

There are two rooms each of area 10'x10'7" as habitable spaces while there is a small kitchen attached to Varanda. The outdoor space also acts as semi public space. A toilet has been proposed at the back of each building plot.

Drawings of the houses:





CHAPTER 5. RESEARCH ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

5.1 DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS

Social Resilience:

- House modifications to analyze socio-cultural sensitivity and adaptive capacity of households

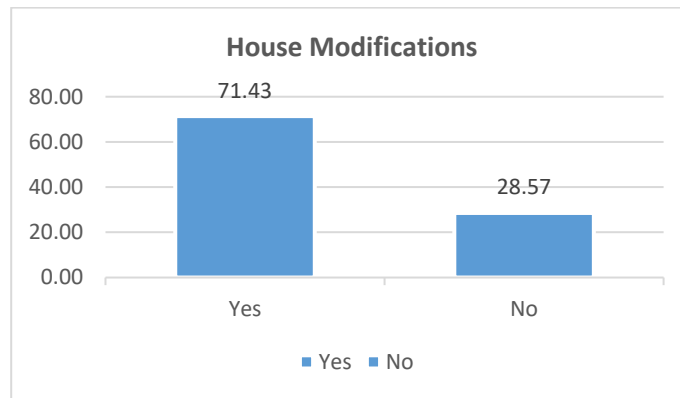


Figure 41: House Modifications by Households

As shown in the graph above, 71% respondents have made changes to the original house planning. The modification of houses based on family size in resettlement housing signifies a practical and adaptive approach to housing design and utilization. The fact that house owners are taking the initiative to modify their houses indicates that the original housing designs did not adequately consider the diverse family dynamics and individual preferences of the beneficiaries. Furthermore, the modifications also reflect the resourcefulness and resilience of the beneficiaries. Faced with houses that did not perfectly align with their family size and composition, the beneficiaries have taken matters into their own hands, showcasing their determination to create living environments that are better suited to their daily lives. This adaptability speaks to the sense of **ownership and empowerment** that residents feel towards their housing situations.

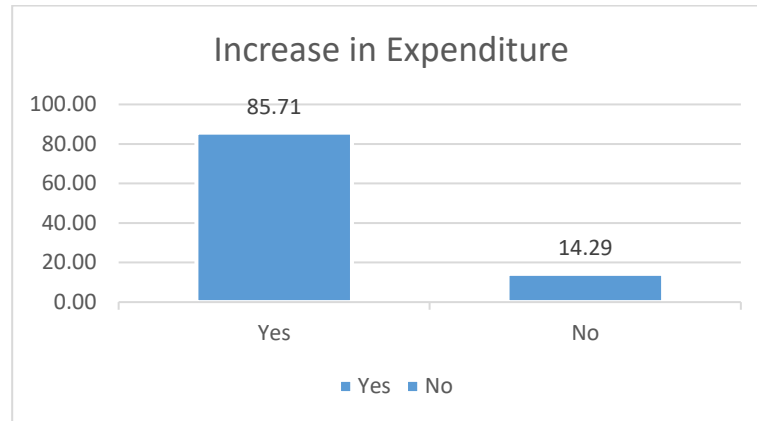
Economic Resilience:

Figure 42: Increase in expenditure with comparison to previous settlement

It reflects the financial challenges and adjustments individuals and families face as they establish themselves in a new environment. Recognizing these increased costs is essential for policymakers and organizations involved in resettlement initiatives to ensure that support mechanisms are in place to mitigate the financial burden on those undergoing relocation. The community with limited financial resources might struggle to adapt to changes and challenges effectively. Higher expenditure during resettlement might limit their ability to invest in strategies and measures that enhance their ability to cope with and recover from future disruptions, reducing their adaptive capacity.

5.2 RELATION BETWEEN THE VARIABLES

Social Resilience

To understand social resilience, survey of household-based spatial arrangements is conducted to assess whether the planning process effectively caters to their social requirements.

Relation between Family Size and House Modification

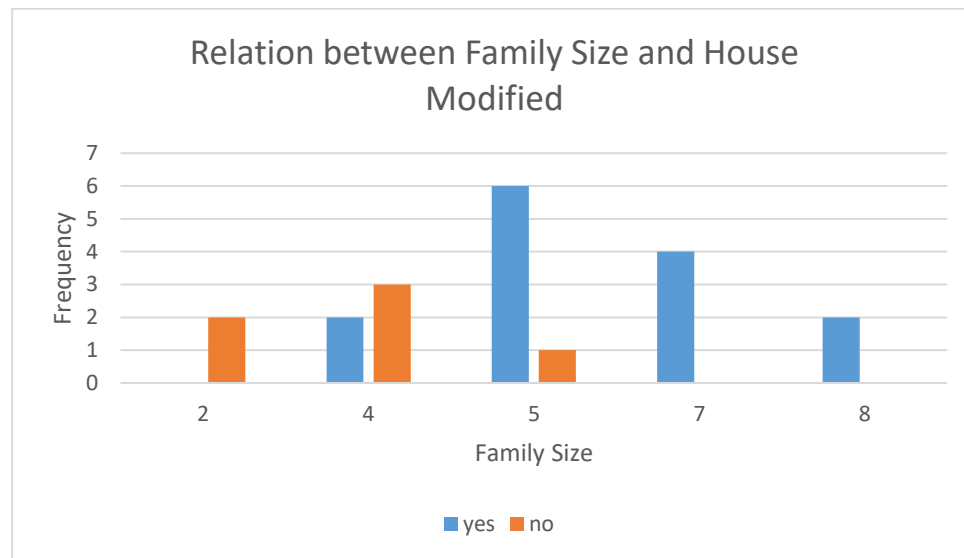


Figure 43: Relation between Family size and House Modification

Most of the households with a size of less than 5 are satisfied with the number of rooms and space planning that are provided. But as the number increased from 5 the dissatisfaction seems to be increasing. Some households with a number more than 7 expressed to be dissatisfied with prevalent planning as it is difficult for them to cater needs. This suggests that the current planning may not adequately meet the needs of larger households, particularly those with more than 7 members. The higher dissatisfaction among larger households could reflect challenges in accommodating their space requirements, which could impact their overall living conditions and comfort. It emphasizes the importance of considering the varying needs of different household sizes to ensure that the resettlement meets the social aspects of the community's well-being effectively.

Family Size and Satisfaction level in space planning to meet needs

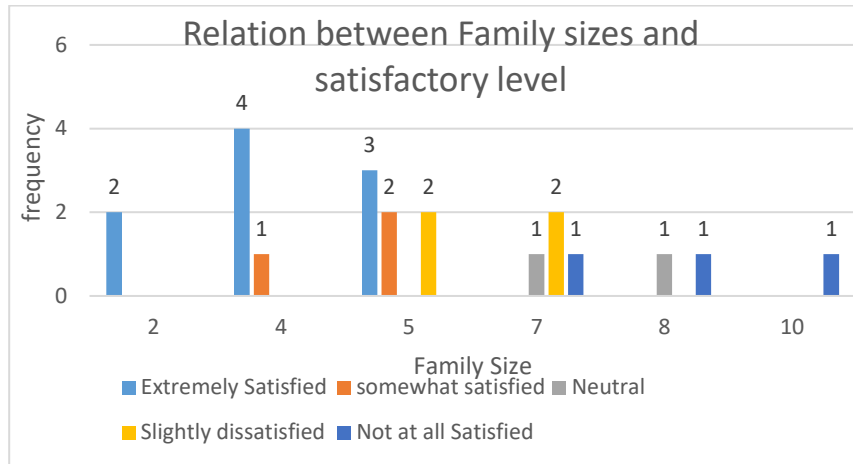
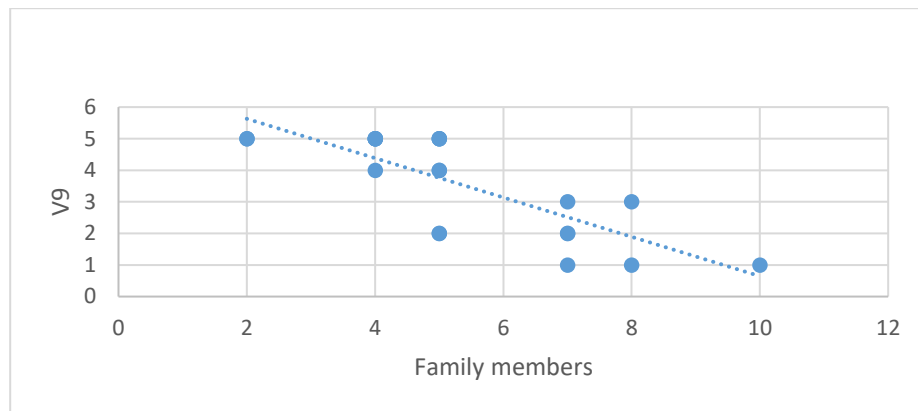


Figure 44: Relation between family sizes and satisfactory levels



Correlations

		Family members	Satisfaction_level
Family members	Pearson Correlation	1	-.789**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	23	21
Satisfaction_level	Pearson Correlation	-.789**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	21	21

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Based on the responses from surveyed families, the provided chart illustrates a trend where dissatisfaction with space planning grows as family size increases. Houses with only 2 rooms appear insufficient to meet the needs of larger families. In households with 4

members, satisfaction is higher, but it diminishes as family size expands. This highlights the importance of considering family dynamics and size when designing housing plans to ensure better social well-being and comfort.

Economic Resilience

Previous Occupation and Present Occupation

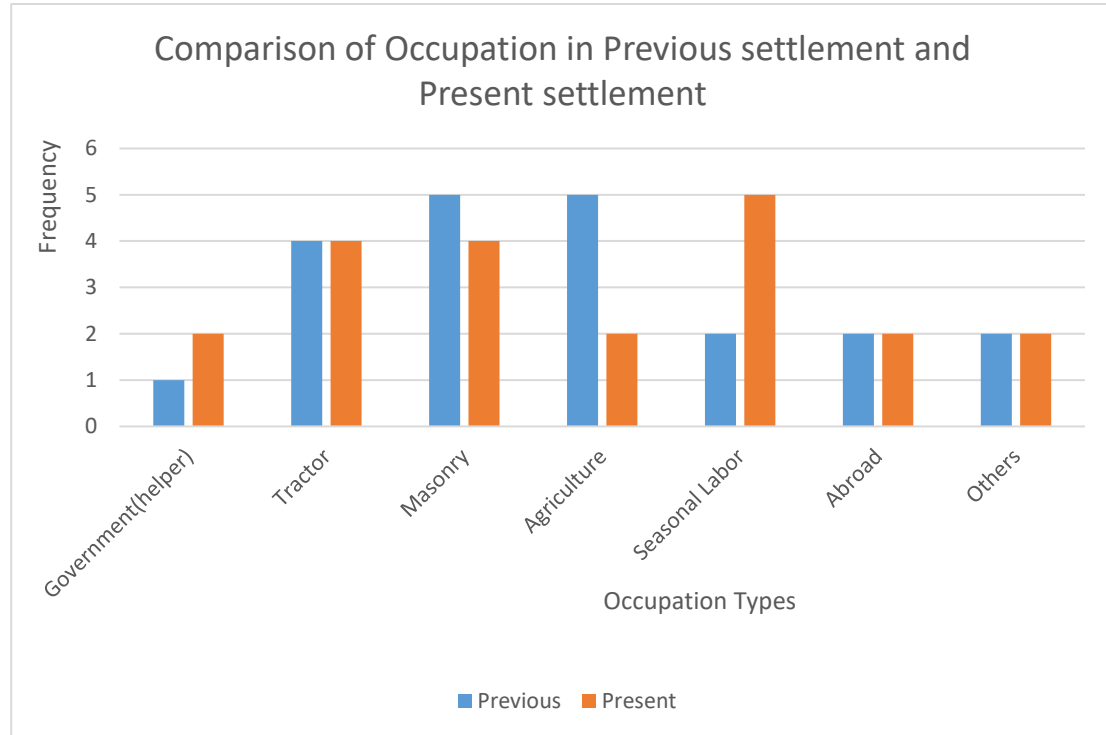



Figure 45: Comparison of Occupation in previous and present settlement

When inquired about their occupations in both the old and new settlements, a significant number of responses were related to agriculture. However, upon relocating to the new settlement, there has been a decline in agricultural activities, accompanied by an increase in seasonal labor work. This shift suggests a transition from stable agricultural jobs to more seasonal employment opportunities, highlighting the current lack of consistent and stable employment options for the community members.

5.3 QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS BASED ON QUESTIONNAIRES AND FIELD INTERVIEWS.

Field Stories of Hope and Hindrances

Table 4: Story of Respondent I who has been living in the new settlement

Respondent I who has been living in the new settlement

<p>Respondent I lives with her husband and four children in House No. 16 of the resettlement. Her children attend Anantya Secondary School in Kanchanbari, which is about a half-hour van ride from her new home. Her family welcomed their new beginning with enthusiasm. Her husband is a painter, but their income is contingent on seasonal work, leaving them anxious about constant job availability. Despite the uncertainty, they make their installments on time, a commitment that has resulted in a substantial increase in their household expenses since moving to the new settlement. The space provided within their new house is appropriate for their small family, meeting their needs adequately.</p> <p>She had been on the committee in the past, but she did not immediately reap the rewards of her service. She is happy with the planning process overall because they were involved in the decisions on building and design. Interestingly, Habitat for Humanity enabled their involvement over two meetings.</p> <p>She does, however, draw attention to a problem with the way the model dwellings were initially presented. The neighborhood was first shown brick houses as models, so they were taken aback when revised specifications for bamboo dwellings were revealed later on. A few cracks on the walls of their new house have already surfaced, raising concerns</p>

about the structure's long-term stability. Regarding social integration and cooperation, she highlights the difficulty they encounter because there aren't many Rajbansi houses in the settlement, which often makes it hard to build meaningful relationships with people, especially the Rishidev family. There is a business near the settlement, and even while the factory receives a lot of local applications, it doesn't seem to hire locals, which raises concerns about equitable employment possibilities for locals. Despite the obstacles, they are hopeful and dedicated to building a safe and cozy living environment in their community.

Findings

- The long commute to school and workplace highlights challenges in accessibility
- Seasonal livelihood presents financial instability, making consistent payments challenging.
- Biased employment practices in nearby industries contribute to local residents' joblessness.
- Active participation in housing decisions empowers residents and improves satisfaction.
- Allocation processes might lack transparency or result in unequal benefits. And limited recognition of community members' voices may hinder effective problem-solving.
- Changes in housing plans and materials could create confusion and undermine confidence in the project and residents
- Social integration is impacted by the demographic makeup of the settlement.
- Despite challenges, respondent I's family maintains a positive outlook and remains dedicated to their community.

Social:
Active Community Participation, Social Integration Challenges

Economic:
Seasonal Livelihood, instability, increased expenditure,

Infrastructure:
Durability Concerns

Institutional:
lack of transparency

Table 5: Story of Respondent II who has started her own business


Respondent II who has started her own business in the new settlement	
	
<p>For the past four months, respondent II (home no. 40), a beneficiary of the resettlement project, has lived in the resettlement area. Prior to that, she had been living in Simrahi, where her father-in-law is still living. She presents a positive view of the resettlement initiative as a whole, demonstrating her hope and support for its goals.</p> <p>The respondent actively participates in her community while working as an assistant in government agencies. Interestingly, the home she currently lives in was initially registered in the name of her late husband, who sadly passed away a year ago from an undisclosed illness. In light of these circumstances, an agreement was made to waive her installment payments, which helped her get by financially during this difficult period.</p>	
<p>Findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The positive outlook of respondent indicates the potential effectiveness of well-executed resettlement initiatives. • The provision for waiver showcases a compassionate approach to supporting those facing hardships and emphasizes the program's intention to provide a fresh start to individuals in need. • The respondent's entrepreneurial initiative illustrates adaptability and resilience in securing her family's future. • Her experience exemplifies the transformative power of thoughtful resettlement strategies. 	<p>Social: Adaptive Capacity</p> <p>Economic: Livelihood support</p> <p>Institutional: Policy support</p>

Table 6: Story of the respondent who is selected from another municipality

Respondent III who is selected for resettlement from another municipality	
<p>The respondent heads from Devnaganj Municipality, a distance away from Biratnagar Metropolitan City. In his hometown, adequate living space is a challenge, given that three brothers share the same residence. Having spent approximately 9 years working in the security sector abroad in Malaysia, he is in Nepal for about 1 month. His wife temporarily residing back home as a house wife. The respondent received information about the project and resettlement through his sister, who resides in one of the houses. Despite consistently fulfilling his rental payments, the actual construction of the house has not commenced. He remains in a holding pattern, waiting for his work situation to progress. His vision entails constructing a superior dwelling and committing to installment payments exclusively for the land purchase. This scenario raises concerns about the potential misuse of resources meant for deserving beneficiaries. Given his capacity to acquire land elsewhere and strategize for an improved standard of living, it is evident that allocating the land to a truly disadvantaged family within the marginalized community's resettlement project would have been a more justifiable course of action.</p>	
<p>Findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The delay in house construction despite consistent payments suggests potential administrative or logistical challenges. • The respondent's ambition to build a superior dwelling demonstrates a desire for better living conditions. • The scenario raises concerns about the possibility of resources being used by those who might not be the most deserving beneficiaries. • The respondent's ability to acquire land elsewhere and plan for an improved standard of living suggests a different approach to resource allocation. 	<p>Institutional:</p> <p>Delay in house construction, Approach to beneficiary selection</p>

Table 7: Story of Respondent IV who doesn't want to leave the old settlement

Respondent IV who doesn't want to leave the old settlement	
<p>Though the respondent likes the idea of owning his own house, he believes, the resettlement initiative of marginalized community is not for him. He would rather stay in his old home in Bakri. One big reason he doesn't want to go to the new settlement is because it's far away. This would make it hard for him to go to work and for his kids to go to a good school. Central to their way of life is the integral role of livestock, which plays a pivotal role in their livelihood strategy. The new settlement, however, imposes restrictions on cattle ownership, preventing them from maintaining their traditional means of sustenance. This limitation casts doubt on the viability of adapting to the new settlement's parameters. Besides, Money is also a big concern. To move to the new settlement, they would need to buy their own land and pay 7000 units every month. This is a lot of money, and right now they can't afford it. This makes the new settlement too expensive for them. It seems like the way it's set up makes it easier for people who already have a lot of money, but not for families like his.</p> <p>Because of these reasons, he can't think of the new settlement as a good choice for his family. Even though the idea is nice, it just doesn't work for them. He really cares about his old way of life, the challenges of moving, keeping animals, money problems, and how it seems like the new settlement is only for richer people. All these things together make him believe that the new settlement is not the right option for them.</p>	
<p>Findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new settlement's distance presents challenges for work and education, making it an impractical choice for the family. • The costs of land purchase and monthly installments are financially unfeasible, making the new settlement unaffordable for them. • Their deep attachment to their old way of life and concerns about moving, livestock, finances, and perceived inequality drive their decision. 	<p>Economic: Livelihood support</p> <p>Social: Place attachment</p>

Table 8: Story of Respondent IV who is living in the old settlement and did not get house in new settlement

Respondent IV who is living in old settlement and did not get house in new settlement	
<p>The elderly lady found herself in a challenging situation, as she was not granted a house in the new settlement despite applying for resettlement. Her hopes of a new home were dashed, and she was informed that her circumstances did not meet the criteria for eligibility in the new housing units. The reason given was that her economic stability was inadequate to afford the regular installment payments, which in turn disqualified her from the housing opportunities and assistance being provided.</p> <p>Furthermore, she shared her observations about the selection process, highlighting the difficulties faced by those who truly needed help but lacked the necessary documentation to prove their situation. This lack of official paperwork seemed to contribute to their exclusion from consideration.</p> <p>The woman was really sad, especially when she talked about how unsafe her old house was because of flooding. Whenever it rained a lot, her family had to quickly go to a school nearby to stay safe. Their house wasn't strong enough to protect them. On top of that, they didn't have much money and didn't have a good place to live.</p> <p>This brings to light that the programs to move people to new places have some limitations. It shows that some people who really need help can't get it because they don't have the right papers or don't meet all the rules. The woman's story emphasizes that when people are not very safe, don't have much money, and their homes aren't good, it makes things really hard for them. It's important to remember that many things, like not having a safe place to live and not having enough money, can make life very tough for people. Vulnerability, economic instability, and inadequate housing often intersect to create complex challenges for marginalized individuals and families.</p>	
<p>Findings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic instability affects the eligibility and Documentation barriers contribute to exclusion from support, highlighting systemic challenges. 	<p>Institutional: Approach to selection of</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unsafe living conditions emphasize the urgent need for better housing solutions. • Financial constraints further exacerbate the difficulties faced by her family. • The story underlines the challenges posed by program limitations and eligibility criteria. • It outlines the complex interplay of vulnerability, economic instability, and inadequate housing, which collectively create significant challenges for marginalized individuals and families. 	<p>beneficiaries and eligibility, Limitations of program, Advocacy</p>
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Table 9: Story of Respondent V who could not pay monthly installments

<p>Story of Respondent V who could not pay monthly installments</p>
<p>The respondent V was previously selected as eligible candidate for house in new settlement, still lives in his dilapidated old house in old settlement. He worked for as tractor driver previously but is unemployed at present. The respondent diligently made installment payments for approximately a year, displaying his commitment to fulfilling his financial obligations. Engaged in seasonal labor, the family's earnings were subject to fluctuations, making it challenging for them to consistently meet their loan repayment deadlines. This made it tough for them to always pay their loan on time. Because their money situation was uncertain, they couldn't stick to the plan of paying a certain amount each time.</p> <p>Sadly, because of these problems, they lost their house. Now, they are back where they started, living in their old and falling-apart settlement houses that show how tough things have been for them.</p> <p>This situation has put them in a very tough spot. They're wondering why the government's plans to help poor and struggling families like theirs with housing haven't made it easier for them to get affordable homes. They're confused why these plans, even though they're meant to help people, haven't actually made it better for those who need it most.</p>

This story shows how complicated it can be when good ideas don't work out as well in real life. Even though they meant to help families like his, the programs for poor communities still have problems. It teaches us that it's important not just to start these projects, but to make sure they really help and make things better for the people who are struggling the most.

Findings:

- Delayed resettlement and return to old housing signify missed opportunities for improved living conditions.
- Unemployment contributes to financial instability and difficulties in meeting financial obligations. Irregular loan repayments reveal challenges posed by fluctuating income and seasonal work.
- Challenges in implementing programs intended to help marginalized families underscore the need for comprehensive and well-executed strategies and raises questions about the effectiveness in providing tangible benefits to those in need.
- The narrative highlights the importance of ensuring that well-intentioned plans translate into meaningful improvements for the most vulnerable individuals and families.

Economic:
Unemployment
Instability

Table 10: Story of Respondent IV who arrived midway in new settlement taking place of another household

Story of Respondent IV who arrived midway in new settlement taking place of another household



The respondent IV (residing at house no. 1), who recently relocated to the resettlement area a month ago, lives in the new house with her husband. Their combined monthly income hovers around Rs. 15000. Her involvement in the construction process was partial due to her arrival midway, taking the place of another household. Their discovery of an available house within the settlement was through a third-party source, and regrettably, they were not provided with a preview of the actual property before purchasing.

Subsequently, the respondent voices her concern about the location of their house, positioned close to a river on the outskirts of the settlement. She expresses concern regarding the potential risks associated with it. She speculates that previous occupants might have either sold their house or ceased installment payments due to the perceived hazards of living near the river.

Despite the presence of embankments, she remains skeptical about their long-term effectiveness. Reflecting on her situation, she conveys that had she been given an opportunity to inspect the actual property beforehand, she would not have opted for a house in such a vulnerable location. In her view, the planning process could have been improved by excluding certain plots near the river. Notably, houses closer to the settlement entrance were assigned to proactive community members, while those less informed were situated at the rear, which included high-risk areas.

Elaborating on the challenges within the settlement, she highlights the substantial time it takes to commute to the city, requiring hours of walking. Despite earlier assurances,

<p>essential infrastructure remains lacking. Her narrative underscores the need for improved planning and infrastructure development within the resettlement, especially concerning the safety and convenience of its inhabitants.</p>	
<p>Findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The respondent’s partial involvement in construction may impact her connection to the house and settlement. • Lack of property preview raises questions about transparency and informed decision-making. • Previous occupants' experiences indicate potential challenges of living in proximity to the river. It also poses evidences of financial instability for payment of installment. • Location of house near the river highlights potential safety issues and underscores the importance of careful site selection. And respondent’s doubts about embankment effectiveness reflect concerns about flood protection measures. 	<p>Institutional: Selection process Transparency</p> <p>Disaster resilience: Doubts about DRR</p>

CHAPTER 6. RESEARCH DISCUSSIONS

Research discussion is carried out in perspective of resilience. Framework of resilience derived from literature study is mentioned as:

Components	Sub-components
Social and community capital resilience	Community participation
	Place attachment and social cohesion
	Socio- Cultural sensitivity
	Adaptive Capacity
Economic Resilience	Accessibility
	Livelihood Support
	Capacity Building
	Inclusivity
Infrastructure and Disaster Resilience	Disaster Risk Reduction
	Social Connectivity
	Critical Infrastructures
	Housing types and needs
Institutional Resilience	Advocacy and Policy support
	Engagement of stakeholders
	Land tenure and land ownership

6.1 SOCIAL CAPITAL RESILIENCE

6.1.1 Community participation:

The community has actively participated in the project by lending their labor. The beneficiaries of the project are actively involved in the construction process because they are on a committee that makes decisions. Women are receiving more attention than men because they have demonstrated greater awareness. At least one member of each household must assist with the construction project. A user committee ensures a strong sense of community engagement. This encouraged active participation but also led to a reduction in labor costs. Each household was obligated to assign one family member as a labor contributor for the construction, while the remaining members would receive remuneration for involvement. This strategy not only facilitated the construction process but also created a fair and inclusive approach to labor distribution within the community.



Figure 46: Women Participation during construction (Source: Sahara-Nepal)

The community is now stronger and more resilient as a result of this. They regard themselves as significant contributors to the project because they cooperate and accept accountability. Their capacity to manage issues and enhance their community has been enhanced by their sense of accountability and active participation.

6.1.2 Place attachment and social cohesion:

Individuals in the settlement experience varying emotions. Some are content with their current residence, while others continue to prefer their previous homes due to the presence of their families. The community is interesting because of this range of emotions, but it can also occasionally make things difficult. The majority of the population's common ethnicity is a vital component that promotes this cohesion. This shared cultural identity fosters a sense of unity and belonging that cuts beyond individual differences, acting as a unifying factor. People are thus firmly rooted in the location and actively engaged in social integration.

6.1.3 Socio- Cultural sensitivity

The experience of the community is significantly shaped by the socio-cultural dynamics within the relocation setting. The population that has been resettled exhibits a notable degree of social cohesion. The Rishidev group is represented mostly, however there are also some members of the Rajbansi and Kamat communities. This same cultural foundation has strengthened the residents' sense of unity, impacting many facets of daily life and fostering their general peaceful cohabitation. It is significant that the majority of the settlers are members of the Rishidev community, who have similar beliefs and lifestyles. But even with this strong social fabric, some worries and annoyances have surfaced, especially with regard to housing distribution. In an attempt to maintain equity, the house assignments were made by lottery, but due to a non-sequential house numberings, some locals are not happy about this irregularity, which emphasizes the need to improve the allocation process in order to encourage a more fair distribution of resources.

Although the housing structures meet their basic needs for shelter, it is still up for debate to what degree they meet social and cultural needs. Even though they now live in the new settlement, people still regularly visit their former places to spend time with family, suggesting that they are still attached to their former social networks.

Additionally, the resettlement's designated open space—which was intended to be developed as a market space—doesn't yet have the necessary facilities to meet the sociocultural demands of the neighborhood. If there are no trees, plants, or spaces with shade, the area is less livable and less likely to develop into a bustling community center. In order to improve the living conditions of inhabitants, attention should be focused on adding green spaces and practical facilities that complement the socio-cultural customs of the neighborhood.

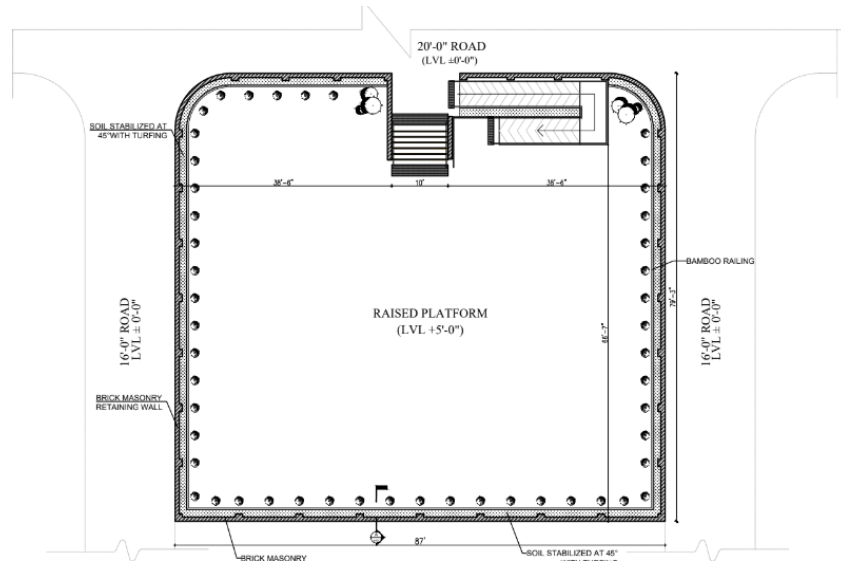


Figure 47: Plan of Communal Space in the settlement (Habitat for Humanity Nepal, 2023)

In contrast to their prior customs, where livestock played a major role in their livelihood and cultural activities, the new resettlement does not have any provisions for keeping cattle. Their customs and social dynamics are impacted by this shift. Moreover, the desire for a kitchen that is distinct from the main house results in the construction of additional rooms for this use. Furthermore, even though separate restrooms and toilets were provided, some residents use these areas more for storage than for their intended purpose. This demonstrates how infrastructure and cultural norms interact in the resettlement, affecting how facilities are used based on both practical needs and customs. According to this viewpoint, the resettlement is not sensitive enough to social and cultural issues.

In summary, while the resettlement has successfully promoted social cohesion, addressing concerns related to enhancing amenities in communal spaces based on their culture and lifestyle and understanding the impact of changes on traditional livelihoods are crucial steps in ensuring the socio-cultural sensitivity and overall success of the resettlement initiative.

While there may be some shortcomings in socio-cultural sensitivity, an extensive evaluation of elements like cultural awareness, adaptability, social unity, community engagement, and attachment to place reveals that strong bonds already in place have the potential to support social and communal resilience.

6.2 ECONOMIC RESILIENCE:

6.2.1 Accessibility

The circumstances of the resettled community make the difficulties with economic resilience clear. The workplace's remote location and poor road connectivity pose a major obstacle to appropriate vehicle access. Not only does this make commuting more difficult, but it also reduces the chances of finding steady work. For regular commuting, the majority of households do, however, own bicycles. In addition, the community has trouble obtaining land for farming. Because of their remote location, landowners are reluctant to participate in cultivation activities, which is indicative of a lack of economic opportunities and integration that may have an impact on their livelihoods and financial well-being.

All of these elements emphasize how critical it is to address accessibility concerns in order to improve economic resilience. Enhancing road connectivity and transportation infrastructure may make it easier to access markets and employment opportunities. The accessibility map in the given figure also shows that there are no amenities within the distance of 1000m.

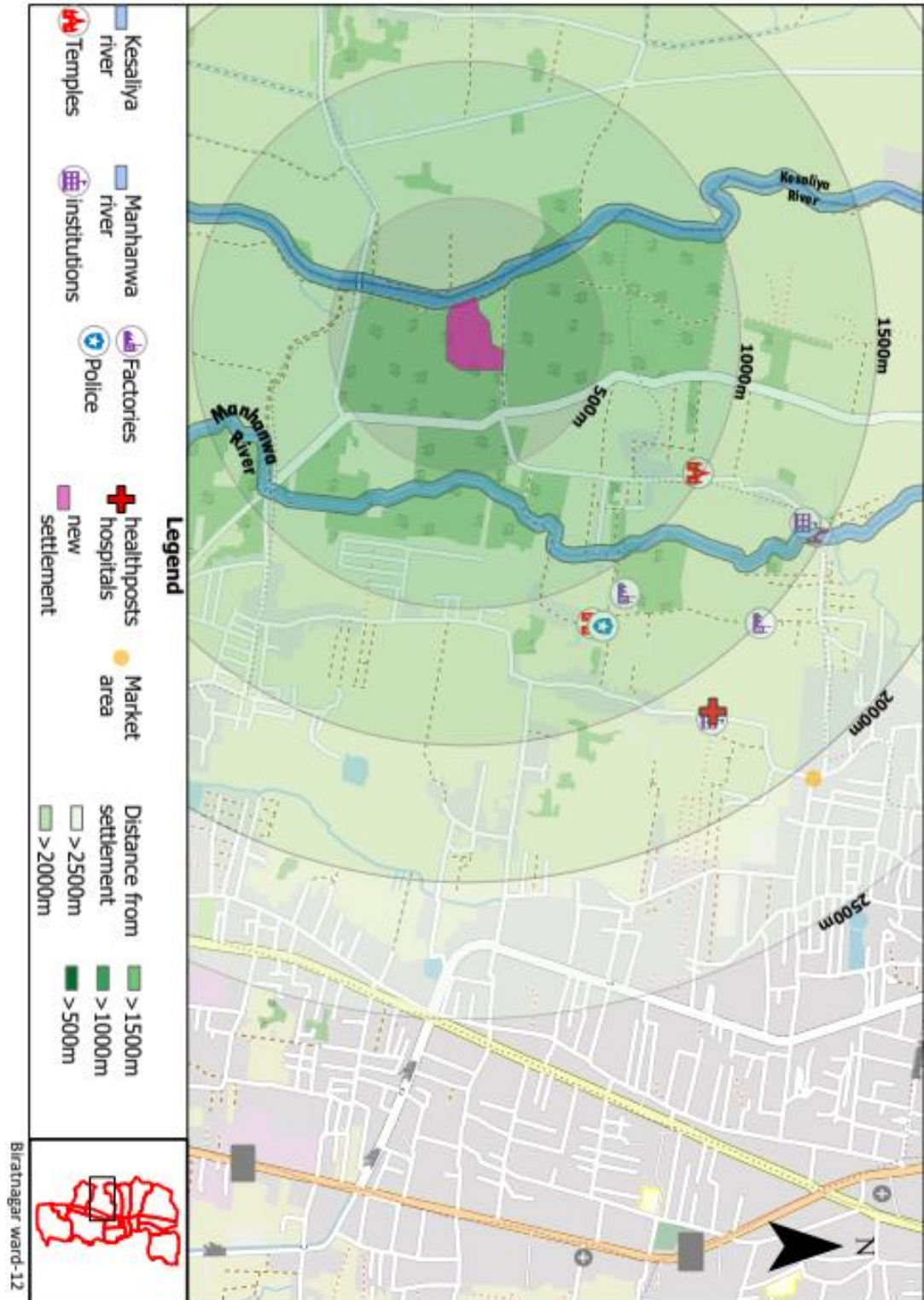
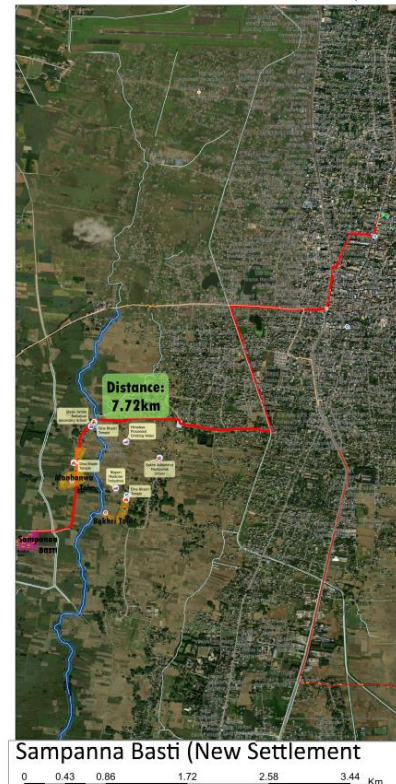


Figure 50: Accessibility map of Sampanna Basti

6.2.2 Livelihood opportunities

Numerous factors pose a challenge to the resettled community's economic resilience. First of all, they have few options for a living, which may limit their capacity to make a steady income and enhance their financial security. Their marginalized status, which frequently results in a lack of access to a diverse range of opportunities, exacerbates this limitation even more.

A major obstacle is also the financial strain brought on by having to make large monthly installment payments. The augmented expenses linked to these disbursements may exert pressure on their fiscal reserves, thereby impeding their ability to fulfill other indispensable requirements and allocate funds towards revenue-generating ventures.

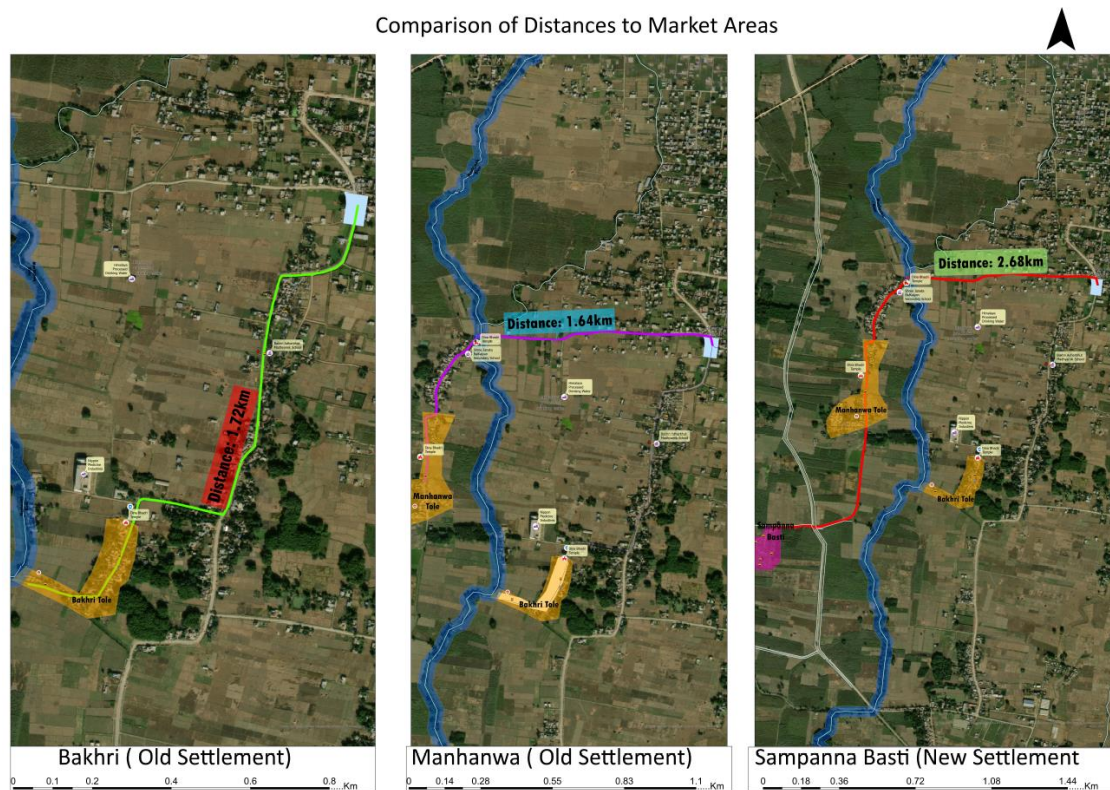


6.2.3 Capacity Building

Even though they were trained in masonry to build their own homes, the skills they learned were not put to good use after the homes were built. The training initiative's long-term financial effects and its contribution to the community's economic resilience are called into question by this underutilization. The problem is further exacerbated by the lack of additional training programs that generate a livelihood. In the absence of chances to acquire novel proficiencies or investigate substitute revenue streams, the community's economic adaptability remains limited. Their inability to diversify their skill set and sources of income may make it more difficult for them to weather future economic downturns and achieve long-term, sustainable growth. Because of this, a more thorough approach to training and skill development is required, one that goes beyond building houses and incorporates more strategies for enhancing livelihoods.

6.2.4 Inclusivity

The community's men's uneven work schedules have an impact on their financial security. However, women also work in seasonal agriculture, which generates some revenue. Concerns exist, though, over the dearth of opportunities in adjacent industries that might offer more reliable employment. Here, inclusivity is a crucial issue. It's unclear if everyone in the community is getting a fair shot given that locals aren't getting hired in the surrounding industries. The absence of inclusivity may have an adverse effect on their economic resilience by restricting their access to a variety of revenue streams.



In addition, because they belong to a marginalized group, it is difficult for them to obtain positions of authority and higher paying jobs. Their economic opportunities are thus restricted, further solidifying their marginalized status. The dearth of opportunities for promotion and higher positions indicates that structural impediments that require attention are limiting the community's ability to withstand economic hardship.



Figure 51: Word cloud generated from interviews with local community members and KII

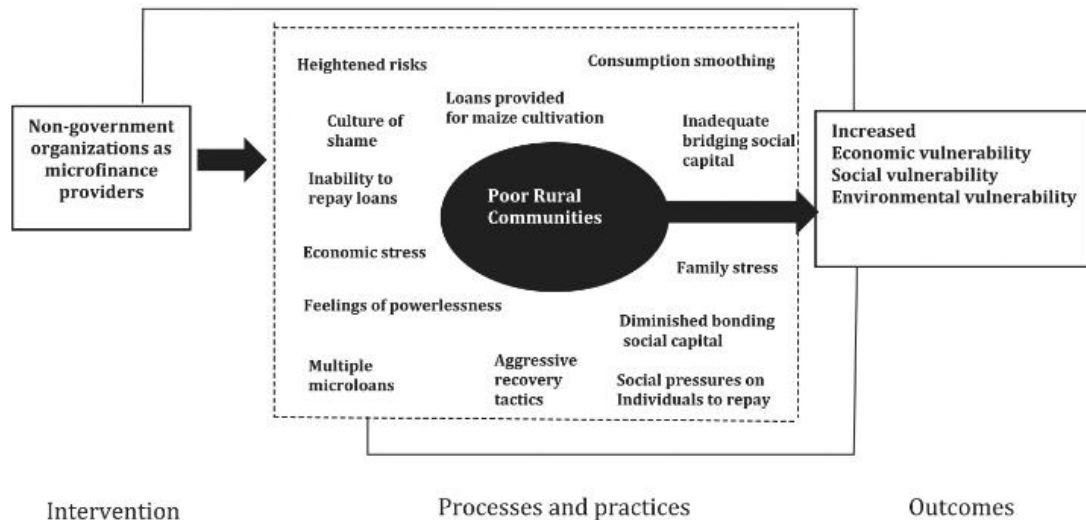


Figure 52: Model of Vulnerability (Banerjee & Jackson, 2017)

In analyzing these factors makes it clear that a combination of financial constraints, marginalized status, and limited opportunities impede the resettled community's ability to withstand economic shocks. In order to increase their economic resilience, efforts should concentrate on offering a variety of livelihood options, removing obstacles related to

money, and offering assistance and resources to help them establish a stronger and more resilient economic base.

6.3 INFRASTRUCTURE AND DISASTER RESILIENCE

6.3.1 Disaster Risk Reduction

Due to its closeness to the river, the location is vulnerable to flooding during times of high precipitation or increasing water levels. The site has been designated as a critical spot for flooding by Biratnagar's Risk Sensitive Land Use Plan (RSLUP), indicating a high potential for flood-related risks and hazards. Despite the construction of retaining walls, the area's inherent susceptibility to flooding is still a concern. There is a chance that visitors will come into contact with wild animals because of the site's open boundary and closeness to natural habitats. The absence of physical barriers makes the community that has been resettled vulnerable to the presence of wildlife, which can endanger the safety of people, livestock, and crops. Everyday activities, livelihoods, and general well-being have all been impacted by this risk.

The new settlement is located in a high-risk area, as indicated by the provided map, which raises questions about the settlement's ability to withstand disasters. The new settlement's geographic location is shown on the map, and it is clear that it is located in a high-risk area. The settlement's location in a high-risk area suggests that it could be vulnerable to a range of unfavorable occurrences, including landslides, floods, and other possible threats to the community's infrastructure, safety, and well-being.

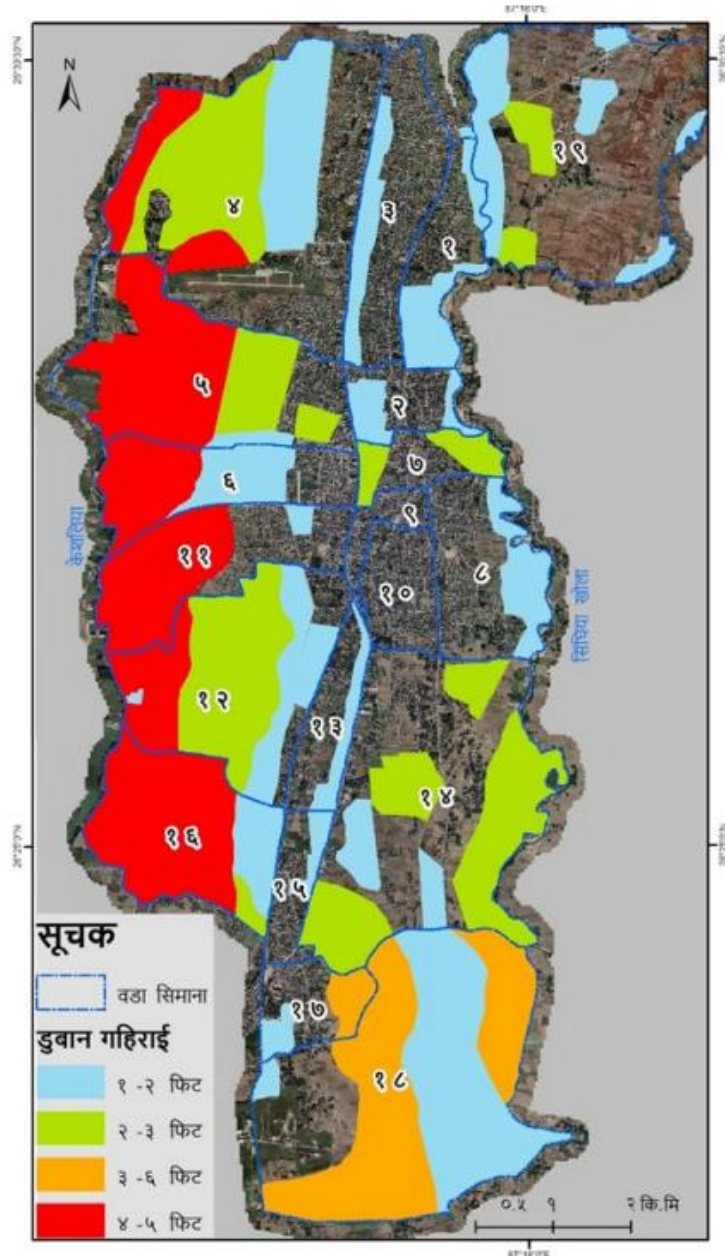


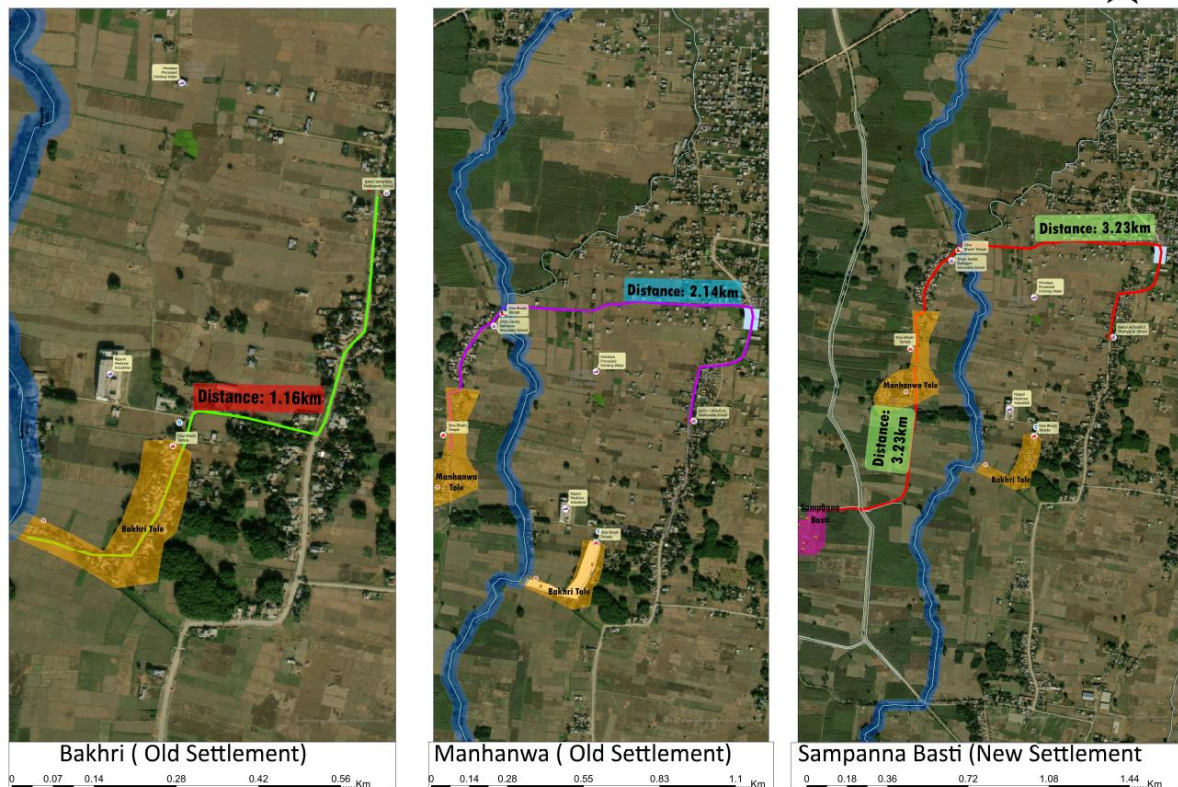
Figure 53: Flood Affected areas in BMC as provided in Risk Sensitive Landuse map

6.3.2 Critical Infrastructures

It is clear from the map survey and transect walk around the site that there is inadequate access to road networks. Critical infrastructure is more readily available when basic utilities like energy, water, sewage, and communication networks are provided. But the community's access to health care and education is limited to older settlements. The

community's capacity to react swiftly and efficiently in dire circumstances is jeopardized by the bad road connection and challenges in getting ambulance or medical assistance during emergencies. Delays in getting to medical facilities during emergencies have been shown to worsen health outcomes. The community's resilience is diminished when emergency services are not promptly accessed, making it less able to withstand unforeseen circumstances.

Comparison of Distances to School/ HealthPost



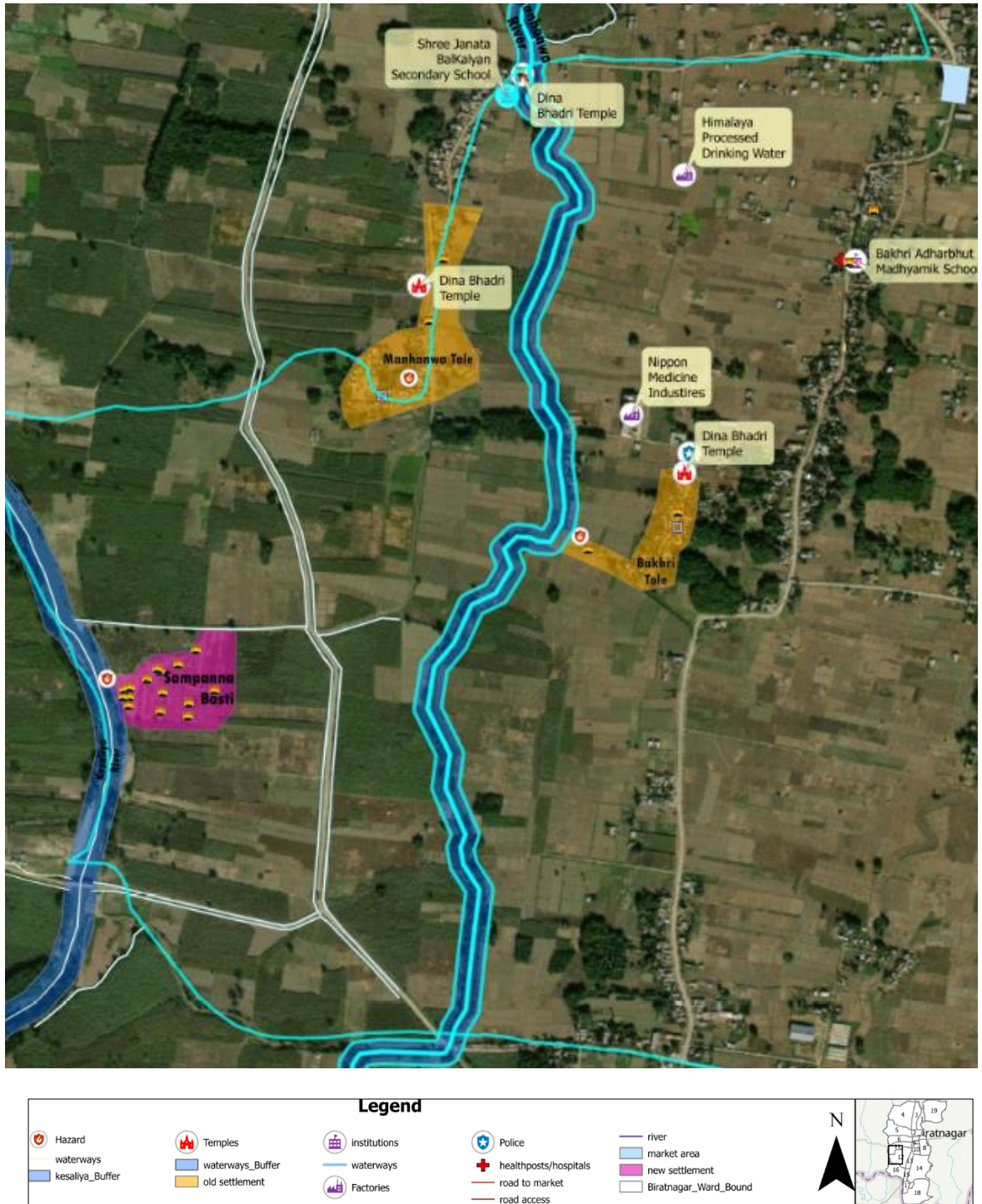


Figure 54: Social Connectivity map of Sampanna basti Area

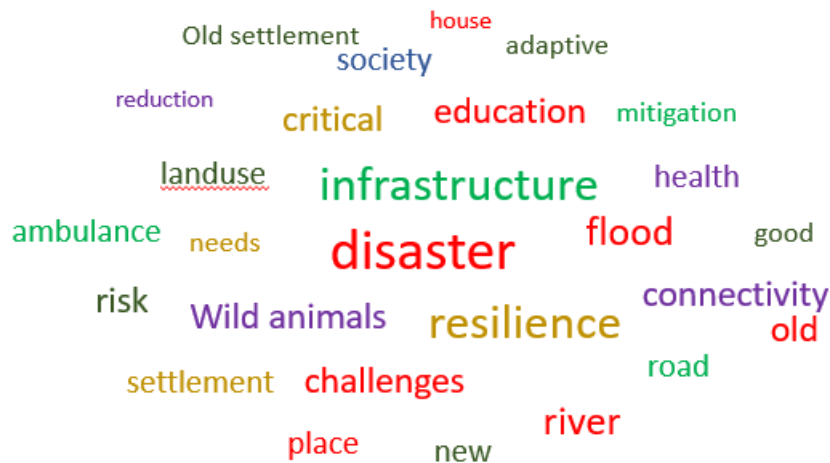


Figure 55: Word cloud generated from interviews with local community members and KII

Considering all the parameters like disaster risk reduction, social connectivity and critical infrastructures, the settlement is not resilient enough in infrastructure and disaster perspectives.

6.4 INSTITUTIONAL RESILIENCE

6.4.1 Advocacy and Policy support

By forming partnerships with INGOs and NGOs like Habitat for Humanity and Sahara Nepal, the community demonstrates a proactive strategy for bolstering its institutional resilience. The establishment of a user's committee strengthens their institutional capacity and gives them the ability to take an active role in advocacy and engagement initiatives. This collaborative framework encourages communication of information, group decision-making, and collaborative projects that support the overall institutional well-being of the community. Nevertheless, the community's capacity to maintain order occasionally encounters difficulties. Financial difficulties can be a problem, despite the fact that they collaborate with NGOs and INGOs to improve things. Members of the community may find it extremely difficult to make the regular payments, and occasionally they may not be able to. This money problem even caused some people to leave the settlement, which could affect how well the community works together and stays strong.

6.4.2 Land tenure and land ownership:

In addition to giving communities a sense of financial security, this land-ownership initiative also gives them the ability to defend their economic viability and stand up for their rights. Legal ownership of the land gives the community a voice in resolving conflicts and pursuing justice when injustices or conflicts involving the land arise. With this legal protection, the communities' economic resilience is significantly increased. They can invest in their land and resources, conduct business with confidence, and create long-term plans for sustainable livelihoods when they have secure land tenure. Their capacity to bargain with third parties, obtain credit, and take advantage of economic opportunities is improved by this legal empowerment since they can do so without worrying about being evicted or facing dispossession.

6.4.3 Engagement of stakeholders

Stakeholders like HfH, SAHARA-Nepal, and JBS have actively participated in and collaborated with one another to create a network of support that encourages knowledge exchange, cooperative efforts, and well-coordinated endeavors. The project's outcome has been greatly enhanced by this cooperative approach. Regular efforts have been made to establish different relief distribution programs, such as "Food for Shelter," and cash distribution initiatives that highlight the observable advantages of these cooperative efforts. Stakeholders can address immediate needs and provide timely assistance during emergencies or natural disasters by pooling resources and expertise. The community can withstand shocks and recover more quickly as a result of this collective response.



Figure 56: Word cloud generated from interviews with local community members and KII

In conclusion, the community's engagement in the user's committee and collaboration with NGOs and INGOs demonstrate their commitment to strengthening their institutions. They improve at what they do as a result of these efforts. The resettlement strategy's emphasis on granting land ownership gives the communities legal protection and the ability to advocate for themselves, which lays the groundwork for institutional resilience. By empowering them, we can increase their economic agency, support sustainable livelihoods, and put them in a position where they can actively engage in the economy and decision-making processes. However, in the interim, there are also instances of unintended land sales that are visible because of the large number of payments that must be made quickly.

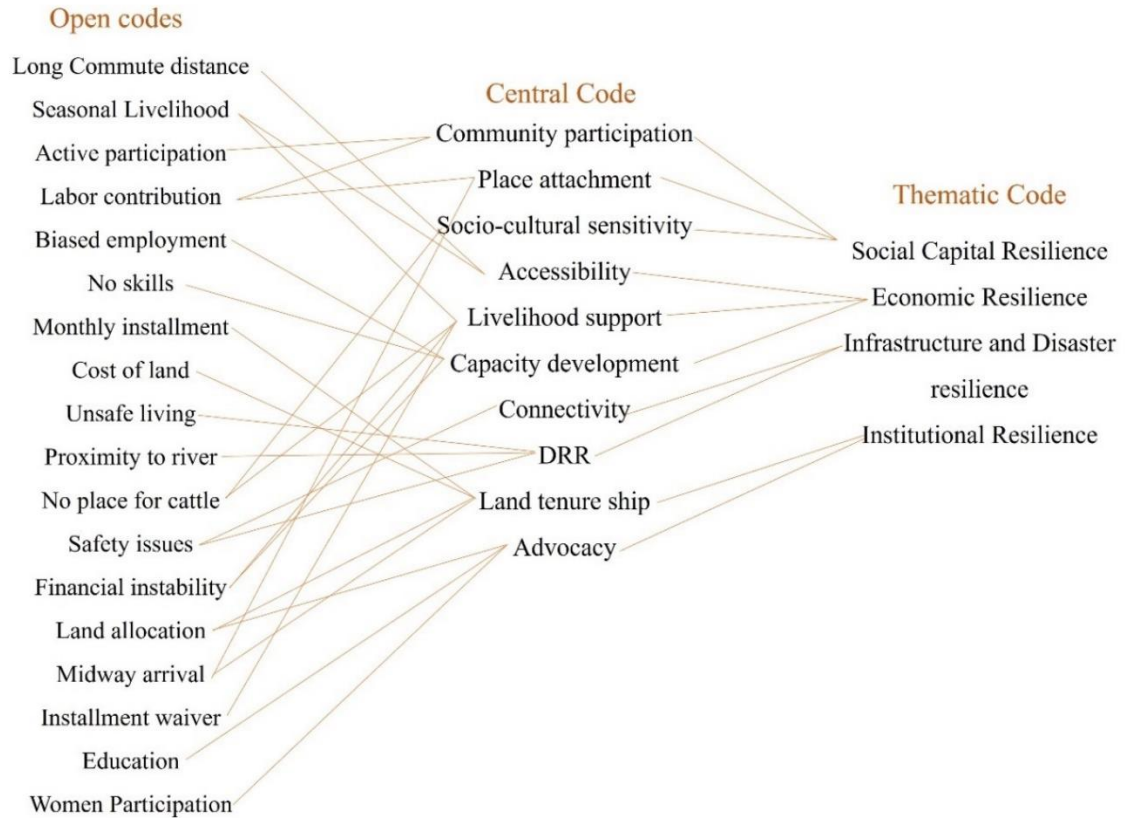


Figure 57: Mapping of codes based on field survey

Sampanna Basti Resettlement in Resilience Framework

The planning and resettlement of Sampanna Basti, which aims to include social aspects as well, demonstrates a positive outlook. This strengthens the evidence that programs overseen by international and national agencies working together are more adept at implementing strategies, while government-led initiatives are falling well short of expectations. When looking at individual housing, the community of Sampanna Basti demonstrates strong physical resilience. From a settlement perspective, though, the community falls short in a number of areas. Despite the best of intentions, problems with accessibility, economic stability, and the larger installment amounts that impoverished individuals must pay present obstacles to social and economic resilience.

6.4.4 Gaps in Policies for strategy Implementations

After studying literature, reviewing cases, and examining specific resettlement initiatives in Nepal, it's evident that various projects have significant policy gaps. For example, the Koshi resettlement project struggles to become resilient even with sincere efforts. Some people show a lack of resilience by struggling financially or by refusing to move. However, despite the use of a variety of planning strategies, the marginalized community in Sampanna Basti still has a discernible economic divide. Some people who truly needed housing assistance were unable to find housing, and others who were forced to return to their previous settlements even after receiving housing in resettlement were unable to make their installment payments on time. Certain individuals from the previous settlement expressed reluctance to relocate there. These incidents expose enduring gaps in current policies by highlighting the discrepancies between the resilience that policies promise and the real difficulties that marginalized communities face.

As mentioned in one of the Key Informant Interviews, there are a number of gaps in Nepal's resettlement policies, and the legal documents governing the protection and rights of marginalized communities are frequently unclear. In order to prevent a later influx of encroachers of others who wish to take advantage of such benefits, affected people must first be identified and recorded as early as possible in order to establish their eligibility through an initial baseline survey (including asset inventory, socioeconomic survey, and population census that serves as an eligibility cut-off date). This survey should ideally be conducted at the project identification stage. However, there is no direct regulation of recommendation regarding such things. Also, it is important to provide support for the transition period (between displacement and livelihood restoration) which is not yet clearly mentioned in policies. Also, there is gaps in policy regarding Internal and external monitoring system that must be established and implemented properly (*Land Tenure And Property Rights Framework*, n.d.).

Furthermore, the social protection policies do not adapt to natural disasters. The main piece of legislation pertaining to risk reduction and disaster management in Nepal is the Disaster Reduction and Management Act of 2017. The protection of human life, private and public property, natural and cultural heritage, and physical infrastructure are the stated goals of

the Act in its preamble. It does not, however, address empowering or enhancing the resilience of those impacted by disasters. However, the Act does mandate that impacted parties receive relief aid: Article 14 mandates that Provincial Disaster Management Committees create fundamental guidelines for aid packages, and Article 16 suggests that the federal government follow suit. But as of yet, no provincial or federal government has created any such guidelines. Another law, the Local Governance Operation Act 2017, requires local governments to rehabilitate disaster-affected persons in their respective constituencies (*Policy Landscape of Social Protection in Nepal*, n.d.). However, local governments have inadequate resources to provide such support, and they give it at their own discretion. The current policy regime leaves many disaster-affected people with no support at all.

6.4.5 Strategic Interventions Required for better Resilience in Resettlement of Marginalized communities in case of Biratnagar

- **Social Capital Resilience**

Table 11: Interventions for Social Capital Resilience in resettlement

Strategies	Inputs
Increase Place attachment and Social Cohesion through active community engagement and representation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Community consultation, participation and contribution from the beginning of planning stage -Initiate community-driven projects that require collective effort and teamwork -Development of user's committee and forums to timely discuss the ongoing issues and organize dialogues -Encourage the formation of interest-based clubs or groups to facilitate social interactions -Development of the strategies to promote inclusivity in diversity

Prioritize the socio-cultural sensitivity of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Adopt community-centered approach to co-create solutions addressing socio-cultural issues -Study of initial conditions for development of mechanism (Encouraging cultural events, traditional design elements)
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- **Economic Resilience:**

Table 12: Interventions for Economic Resilience in resettlement

Strategies	Inputs
Encourage women participation and prioritize women mobilization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Conduct workshops focusing on leadership skills, decision-making, and community engagement to empower women to take on leadership roles -Establish support groups for women to discuss shared challenges, exchange ideas, and provide mutual assistance. -Organize campaigns on women's rights, health, and legal awareness to educate and empower women within the community -Offer training in various skills such as vocational skills, entrepreneurship, technology, and financial literacy to enhance women's capabilities
Provide Financial Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Provide financial literacy materials in local languages for better understanding -Introduce microfinance schemes tailored for small businesses or personal needs -Conduct community led discussions and workshops within the community on financial topics, encouraging shared knowledge and experiences -Provide access to microfinance institutions that offer small loans

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Establish groups where members pool savings and learn collectively and Introduce community investment projects that demonstrate financial principles in practice
Employment and skill development opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Provision of reservation and subsidy to targeted group for Skill development trainings -Conduct research to understand how microfinance influences the role of women to empower women -Create Self-help group and link them with banks for future sustainability
Inclusivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Enforcement of Inclusive Procurement Policies that promote purchasing from local enterprises and encourage businesses to adopt inclusive hiring practices to provide opportunities for marginalized groups -Offer job-readiness training to enhance employability -Provide continuous support through counseling, networking events, and follow-up programs -Enforcement of rules for continuous monitoring of consistency of people in their jobs
strategic investment on infrastructures near the resettlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Develop and prioritize the nature of shared infrastructure and time-bound plan Encourage private investors and impact investment funds to invest in projects

- **Infrastructure and Disaster Resilience**

Table 13: Interventions for Infrastructure and Disaster resilience in resettlement

Strategies	Inputs
Internalization of resilience in development planning and development of legal framework	-Develop DRR and climate change checklists as an integral part of IEE guidelines -Capacity Development programs for technical staff
Encouraged climate change responsive building byelaws in place	-Develop guidelines for promoting green building technology in housing and other construction -Implementation of RISLUP linking it with Building Bye Laws
Promotion of ecofriendly and local renewable technology for disaster mitigation	-Promotion of bio engineering and nature-based solutions for flood management -Develop guideline for conservation of ponds, open spaces, rivers and forest near the community
Proper identification and strengthening of critical infrastructure	-Mapping, vulnerability assessment and retrofitting of critical infrastructure (Hospital, schools, community buildings) -Schools (within a distance of 0.4-0.8km), (30 mins in public transportation) (MoUD, 2015) -Sub Health Post (1 per 1000 population) -Open Space (2.5% of total neighbourhood park) -Public Water supply (within 100m)(MoUD, 2015)
Enhanced Social Connectivity	-Development of emergency route plan for evacuation to hospitals and evacuation centers -Development of community based insurance scheme against Disaster Risks

- **Institutional Resilience**

Table 14: Interventions for Institutional Resilience in resettlement

Strategies	Inputs
Land tenure and land ownership	-Development of conditional land tenure (lease hold tenure/ communal tenure) that balances ease of land ownership for resettled communities(Werner & Bayer, 2017)
Advocacy and Policy Support	-Conduct research and gather data on issues affecting marginalized communities to support policy proposals for evidence-based advocacy -Collaborate the community with NGOs, academia and research groups to raise awareness, prioritize issues, raise funds and amplify advocacy efforts -Enable strategic communication and media engagements
Engagement of stakeholders	-Encourage private investors and impact investment funds to invest in projects and enterprises that benefit marginalized communities -Conduct capacity development activities to keep stakeholders uptodate with concurrent issues of the disadvantaged groups

CHAPTER 7. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

7.1 CONCLUSION:

This research explored the perspectives and experiences of Sampanna Basti's residents, drawing from open-ended interviews, questionnaire surveys, and tools like GIS and SPSS for data collection and analysis. The aim was to study the actual state of resettlement strategies on the ground, focusing on resilience for marginalized populations. The framework for resilient resettlement highlighted social and economic factors alongside physical and infrastructural resilience and institutional resilience. Emphasizing economic and social viability is essential for sustaining resettlement efforts and fostering community development smoothly. This framework, shaped by both literature and research, introduces institutional resilience as a new facet to address the challenges faced by marginalized communities, underscoring the need to amplify their voices.

The study revealed various issues faced by the marginalized residents of Sampanna Basti. While individual homes showed strong physical resilience, the settlement itself lagged in different aspects, particularly regarding accessibility, economic stability, and the financial burden on the poor due to high installment amounts. Despite attempts to involve people from the start and utilize low-cost bamboo materials, concerns persist about durability. Financing schemes, while intended to aid, paradoxically challenge the core purpose of providing homes to the marginalized. This analysis aimed to bridge the gap between the promises outlined in policies and the realities on the ground, revealing disparities that call for further research.

Current policies such as the Right to housing, National Shelter Policy, etc. as per the study advocate for secure housing and the integration of resilience in resettlement approaches. However, upon closer analysis of resettlement strategies at the ground level, the study suggests several policy gaps in their effectiveness for promoting resilience.

In the case study of Sampanna Basti, strategic recommendations have been discussed that highlight economic and social factors as pivotal contributors to the resilience of marginalized communities. In rural contexts, there is a greater emphasis on fostering social bonds to enable people movement from one place to another, whereas urban settings

should prioritize economic opportunities as their way of living. It becomes evident that for the stability of marginalized populations, focusing on economic and social resilience is paramount, surpassing the significance of merely addressing physical aspects and the provision of housing units. This demonstrates the need for a nuanced approach that recognizes the diverse needs and dynamics within marginalized communities.

In conclusion, this research significantly contributes to comprehending the intricate dynamics of resilience in resettling marginalized communities. By evaluating the effectiveness of the Biratnagar resettlement strategy and comparing it to actual conditions, it offers crucial insights for policy interventions and recommendations in implementing resilient strategies. By recognizing and addressing their specific needs and vulnerabilities, resilience-oriented resettlement can contribute to a more just and equitable society while fostering their ability to adapt and thrive in the face of future challenges.

7.2 RECOMMENDATIONS:

This research was done to understand the interplay between community resilience, resettlement practices and marginalized community. On the basis of literature reviews, reviewed cases of resettlements and case study of Sampanna Basti of Biratnagar, real ground situation of existing resettlement practices have been studied. The study emphasized the concept of resilience and various frameworks, aiming to comprehend how communities develop after resettlement. It's essential for marginalized communities to have better social capital, economic stability, institutional support, and resilience against disasters. By combining real-world observations with theoretical underpinnings, various measures have been recommended.

7.2.1 Strategy for Resilient Resettlement of Marginalized Community:

Based on research and localized case studies, the creation of a resilient resettlement strategy for marginalized communities requires the prioritization of certain factors. This strategy must dynamically incorporate social, economic, physical, and institutional components to effectively strengthen the community resilience. By focusing on these factors, a comprehensive approach is ensured, making certain that the resettlement plan is not just centered on infrastructure, but also takes into account the social fabric, economic

stability, physical safety, and the establishment of strong institutional frameworks. A flexible strategy that can accommodate these diverse aspects of resilience becomes crucial not just for resettlement, but also for the ongoing empowerment and fortification of marginalized communities against future challenges.

- **Advocacy:** This Strategy is fundamentally about advancing laws, policies, and practices that boost the expansion of resettlement and additional pathways. The creation of advocacy initiatives should be based on robust evidence, the formation of alliances, and the use of strategic communication to inspire significant change. These advocacy efforts will give power to marginalized communities, enhancing their voices to secure more political support and leadership at all levels of governance (Mayoux, 2003). Furthermore, it will attract new advocates for resettlement and supplementary pathways, encouraging wider participation and backing.
- **Capacity Building:** Enhancing the abilities of individuals, communities, institutions, and infrastructure is of utmost importance. Initiatives for capacity building will create systems and governance, unlock potential, and provide stakeholders and beneficiaries with the tools to start and expand programs. This is a vital way to link them to livelihood opportunities and help them rebuild their lifestyles for sustainable future.



- **Meaningful Participation:** It equips individuals and communities with the tools to initiate change, allowing them to exercise their rights and fulfill their responsibilities. It advocates for a range of approaches and initiatives, from consultations to partnerships and co-design, to overcome obstacles to participation and to foster the community's role as active and positive change-makers. The entire process is deeply rooted in social capital, preserving the community's sense of belonging and connection to their place.
- **Multi-stakeholder Collaboration:** The expansion of resettlement and additional pathways necessitates the dedication, proficiency, and resources of a diverse group of stakeholders. This endeavor calls for a united effort, collaboration across different sectors, and the establishment of models that promote inclusive participation and foster innovative multi-stakeholder partnerships.
- **Risk Sharing Mechanism:** It functions as protective barriers against vulnerabilities, ensuring that the disadvantaged community is better equipped to endure and bounce back from potential risks and catastrophes. This approach includes community ownership, collective savings efforts, and community-based insurance schemes aimed at lessening the effects of disasters. These strategies act as crucial lifelines for at-risk populations, allowing them to collaboratively tackle unexpected obstacles. Through resource consolidation, risk sharing, and the provision of support networks, these mechanisms not only boost the community's resilience against adversities but also cultivate a culture of unity and mutual aid among its members.
- **Innovation:** Resettlement strategies require innovative approaches that evolve with technological advancements, emphasizing bottom-up and inclusive methodologies. Embracing innovative technologies and approaches that prioritize community involvement and inclusivity becomes crucial for the holistic advancement and empowerment of marginalized communities. These innovative strategies should encourage active participation from the affected communities, allowing their voices to shape the resettlement process. By fostering an environment where local insights and needs are central, these innovative

approaches can ensure more sustainable, community-driven solutions that lead to the upliftment and overall well-being of marginalized populations.

7.2.2 Policy Interventions Required:

The fact that Nepal does not have a comprehensive and inclusive national resettlement policy means that resettlement in Nepal has usually been addressed on a project specific basis, following the guidelines of the World Bank and the ADB. Attention to specific project circumstances is of course required, but without any coherence and evaluation of best practices there remains little cumulative knowledge to draw on for forthcoming projects. The Land Related Act of 2021 establishes minimum land subdivision sizes, such as 80 square meters for hill and mountain areas and 85 square meters for Terai regions in urban land. However, it lacks specific provisions addressing affordable housing concerns, particularly for marginalized communities. Local governments across various regions are currently applying their own interpretations, but there's a need for separate, targeted guidelines that account for the affordability of the intended population. This would ensure a more tailored approach to meet the housing needs of marginalized communities. The Lands Act 1964 was the first comprehensive piece of legislation which came into existence to pave the way for land reform. The revised Section authorizes Nepal's government to establish a commission, committee, or task force through a notice in the Nepal Gazette to allocate land to landless Dalits. Section 52A(4) delegates the specifics of forming these bodies to the regulations, leaving aspects like their structure, authority, and functions undefined within the Act. This demands the statutory guidance that raises concerns about potential politicization in the allocation of land due to the absence of clear substantive guidelines for these mechanisms. Also, Nepal requires a holistic new “Land Policy” that not only addresses the economic dimensions of land but also fosters socio-cultural aspects and safeguards tenure and the traditional practices that are still prevalent in the country (UN Habitat, 2018). Furthermore, with events like COVID-19 and liquidity crisis which has hugely impact the housing business sector, the risk management strategies need to be developed especially, involving financial institutions. Besides, there is a need to develop relocation guideline and relocate settlements exist along the rivers to any safer location as they are always at risk of flooding during monsoon season.

7.2.3 Recommendations for further research

This study utilized mixed methods to deeply explore resilience frameworks for resettlement of marginalized communities. The terms "resilience" and "community" are broad, and understanding the complexities of resettlement strategies requires examining various dynamics involved in relocating people from one place to another. This study had limitations, particularly in its broader applicability and the challenge of working with larger sample sizes. To enhance understanding, future research could reassess the resilience of the resettlement after a few years to determine if they align with their intended design goals. This study has paved the way for further investigation across various domains. For instance, there's a need to delve into how microfinance impacts the roles of women in disadvantaged rural areas, which remains an open area for exploration. Additionally, there's potential for researching policy gaps to bridge the divide between policies and their practical implementation on the ground to make them more effective and relevant. Further research can refine our understanding and inform future strategies for more resilient and supportive resettlement practices.

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ANNEX

ANNEX:

ANNEX I: Key Informant Interviews

KII with Municipality Official (Former Head of Social Development Section, Poonam Dahal)

He is eager about the development of squatters and to solve squatters problems. He is not satisfied with the government system as he got transferred to another section. He has a background of social development and is more concerned about people

Background

- Initially, they had constructed houses in ward no. 19 for landless households. They were vulnerable people living in low land where they would suffer flooding every year.
- Typology: onsite construction by rearranging houses and plots
- Total households: 32
- The module was same where they collaborated with Habitat for Humanity and Sahara Nepal for construction of houses, and labour contribution from each households.
- However, as municipality did not have the land and they were constructed on the government land itself, the households did not get their landownership and they are still landless.
- The municipality had plans to work on similar approaches in different other places as well. In ward no. 19 itself, they had envisioned settlement for 500 households in 10 bigha. The project which could have been a model satellite village for resettlement of squatters is still in halt as there are no further plans and inconsistencies in government.
- Such projects would require large investments which they are still working on.
- As lesson learned from the previous project, the municipality linked it with Jiban Bikash Samaj which could provide loan to households to buy their own land.

About Sampanna Basti:

- Land area: 16 kattha
- Each household land area: 10 dhur
- The program initiated in collaboration of BMC, Province government, Habitat for Humanity, Sahara Nepal and Jiban Bikash.

- There has been tri-party agreement between:
- Other concerned authorities like Electricity department and Department of Drinking water would contribute accordingly to the process.
- They had provisions for helipad, parking areas and grocery market areas in future plans. Open spaces shall be used by the community itself.

Process for selection

- The process of selection of only 145 households among 400 to 500 households was a hectic process. They had certain criteria set for the process;
 - Those who can pay loan
 - Those who had proper documentation
 - Those who are residing in road and obstructed the development process
 - Social
 - They had tried to plan considering lifestyle and religion of people and enhance skill development and add market value to it.
 - The effort was to try to bring life and soul to the settlement and promote sense of belongingness. There should be consideration of how different groups like children, women, old people are using the space
 - They had to be well aware of behavioral aspects to understand active groups and biased groups for confirmation that at least 70% people could move there to prevent the vacant houses.
-
- By the time they own the land completely, market value would be 15 lakhs while they pay only about 4.5 lakhs in total
 - The main aim is to foster prosperity among people
 - There should be proper sustainable development. Government wings should extend their support for such projects. Squatter settlement being the problem of entire country itself, it is very crucial to develop it in such a way they others can learn from it. The settlement can be developed as a satellite city which can foster tourism development. Besides technical aspects, social aspects should also be taken
 - Mahatma gandhi awas karyakram: people from there were impressed. Despite less budget, how come BMC could manage such development

Disaster aspect:

- Before planning, feasibility test and soil test was done
- Flood status and effect of flood in last 30 years was checked for risks mitigation

- The settlement is situated nearby river, however, they had roads designed on river side. The settlement is safe
- Though the existing households are constructed in low land, they are yet to fill it

Challenges faced:

- It was difficult to bring everyone together. As a marginalized community, the community lacked proper commitment in the process.
- Different aspects of social mobilization was disturbed as there were many outside forces to distract people. They had social and political conflicts regarding ownership, place attachment, influences to people
 - Presently, due to lack of government finances the process is slow and tedious

KII with Coordinator, Rajiv Burma (Habitat For Humanity-Biratnagar)



- Firstly, there was a problem of finding land for resettlement project and later Land with enough area was found which was parceled land and acquired with the help of Kedar Karki, representative of Jiban Bikash.
- Around 60 to 70 families were selected initially via lottery system meeting criteria of needy family. The plan was strategized to give parcel documents for selected families with not more than ceiling range of 3 lakh which would be inflated to 5 lakhs in 3 years' time with interest for each family.

Precisely 4 lakhs 70 thousand loan was given to each family for land while the structure was constructed through help of province government, BMC and Habitat Nepal. Each family has to pay sum of 7000 per month which would be compounded if they are not able to pay in time.

- Regarding construction process, Structural design was followed to CBFT and design of Anna gatto for bamboo architecture was applied. The applied designs are the first attempt and can be regarded as experimental for Habitat Nepal as well. Hence, lots of challenges followed including the cracks in plaster, tedious construction process etc.
- Habitat Nepal is responsible for Technical and social mobilization, software trainings etc. A total of NPR 1,35,000 was invested by Habitat while estimated amount of 7 lakhs were invested by province as well as local government equally. It has conducted similar housing projects of same model in Birtamode of Jhapa as well.
- 5 users committee was made for implementation of the project which involved community engagement for the feeling of ownership. Monitoring is done by local government as well as sahara Nepal which Provincial government only observes funding part.

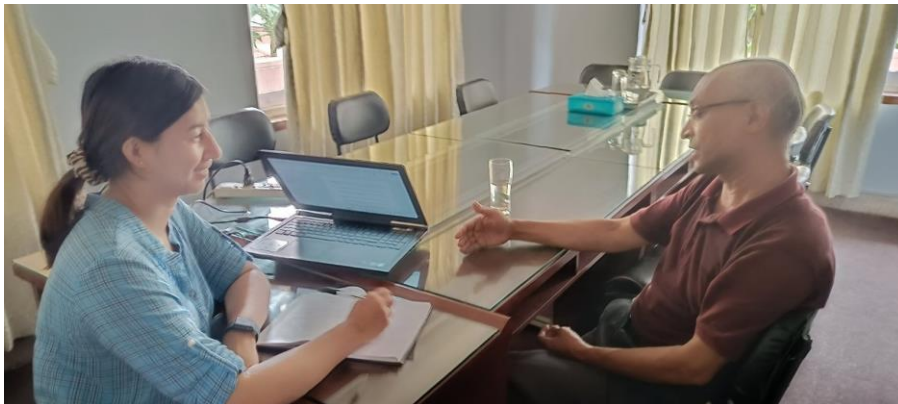
KII with Mr. Padam Kumar Sardar, Makalu television



- As dedicated social activists, they tirelessly progress in their advocacy for the rights of marginalized communities.
- A prevailing issue among these communities is the lack of awareness and knowledge. There exists a limited understanding of the importance of education.

- Despite various initiatives by different institutions, there remains a notable lack of self-awareness and commitment among the people. This deficiency makes it challenging to instill progressive ideas within them.
- There is lack of farsighted thoughts among the community as they work hard today and rely on the sole earning for other days and only realize the need of money when they face the deficit of money again. There have been infamous incidents of inconsistency in work so that employers don't readily trust them.
- The community appears to lack a sense of long-term planning and forward-thinking. Their focus is often centered on the present, putting in considerable effort for immediate gains, but failing to consider the future implications. This short-sighted approach leads them to rely solely on their current earnings, without adequately preparing for the days ahead. It's only when they find themselves confronted with financial deficits that they recognize the urgency of securing funds
- Although scholarships and quotas are available for underprivileged Dalit communities, these opportunities are often monopolized by more privileged Dalit groups. The Musahar communities, unfortunately, remain largely unable to access such avenues.
- The root cause of all problems is lack of awareness and education among the community, which should be enhanced to instill progressive thought among them.
- As social activists, they are always in dire seek of assistance of any kind from different concerned authorities.

KII with Om Dharananda Rajopadhyaya, Policy Expert



Illustrating the context of resettlement during a challenging insurgency period, an instance was shared wherein the government designed houses for specific targeted groups. However, these individuals chose not to relocate to these houses, as it would have made them conspicuous and vulnerable. This example highlights the oversight of planners in

considering the perspectives of the users, emphasizing the importance of incorporating their viewpoints.

Numerous instances exist where residents are reluctant to move to new resettlement areas. To address this issue, creative solutions like land swapping could be explored, enabling the government to repurpose old sites for cultivation or productive activities, thereby maintaining a connection with these places.

He also shared about the necessity of proper guidelines for selection of eligible beneficiaries so that project goes to the one in actual need.

Furthermore, it is crucial to integrate livelihood aspects into the resettlement planning process. The Poverty Alleviation Fund has played a significant role in lifting communities out of poverty, and the concept of a revolving fund adds value to the planning for economically disadvantaged individuals. This underscores the need to incorporate economic dimensions into the broader framework of resettlement planning.

KII with Ar. Lumanti Joshi (Lumanti Support Group for Shelter)

- The main mission of the organization was to alleviate poverty and hardship through advocacy and improvement in housing and socio-economic conditions including access to WASH facilities.
- The areas of work encompasses; Community empowerment; Gender & Social Inclusion; Housing standard upgrading; Good Governance, and Better Quality of Lives for the Poor.

Approaches for Housing Development

- Partnership and Collaboration with Communities, Local governments, Academic Institutes, Cooperatives
- and Commercial banks .
- Advocacy (Durable Solutions, access to land /secure tenure for slum dwellers)
- Community led and Community mapping, (survey, GLTN, Heritage Recovery Plans),
- Technical assistance (designing, Building permits, supervision, affordable technology, community
- information centers)
- Access to financial resources-Coops Commercial Banks

Approaches for coordination with local governments

- MOU signing with the LGs
- Get a focal person from LG appointed

- Facilitate to close the gap between the LGs and the communities
- Leverage resources from LGs for basic infrastructure and livelihood
- Capacity enhancement/learning visits of the LGs/ relevant officials – participation at the international events / training / visits

Example of failed settlement of Lumanti Project: Koshi Housing due to wild life terror

KII with Office Chief, Ganesh Bahadur Maharjan Federal Planning Implementation Unit, Koshi



- Federal unit has no specific project related to resettlement
- Prevalence of Safe Housing Programs
- There are projects of roads in different places in the province. In this context, they have plans and provisions for the marginalized communities who are displaced due to such development projects.

KII with Er. Om Prakash Sharm, Urban development building office

- Janata Awas
- They have provisions for Janata Awas
- They have projects in three districts:
 - Sunsari: 11,44 (completed households)
 - Udaypur: 1019
 - Morang: 1329
 - Monitoring and evaluation from National Planning Commission
 - 3 lakhs
 - 4 lakhs 46 thousand by Terai Madhesh
- Success rate: 90%

- Houses selection based on workplan
- They link it with local government. They only facilitate them
- Dalit and Muslim needy based on sifarish
- Existing vanda ramro garne
- They have plans and modify it for betterment

KII with Ward Chairman and Secretary at BMC ward 19



- There are many marginalized communities like Musahar, Muslims in the ward. There was an initiation to resettle them on site in the place they were actually living by arranging the plots.
- BMC in collaboration with HfH and Sahara Nepal developed a resettlement for marginalized community
- The land was low land causing regular flooding
- The initiative provided them with houses but they wont get land
- Cost of land in area: 8 lakhs per katha
- Labour contribution from each household
- Infrastructure management by BMC
- Presently, the settlement has a canal at the boundary which is uncovered so that children are exposed to the hazard.

KII (Jiban Bikash)



As people belong to marginalized communities, they are not earning enough with no proper income sources. So there are problems related to economic sustainability. However, people are paying the amount timely. There are cases where people pay their installments late. Despite all difficulties, people are eagerly working on it. They extend time period by few more days in case of delay.

Training:

- There have been interaction programs regularly. There are committees and if people have any provisions and requirements, they can share their thoughts there as well.
- People themselves are involved in agriculture
- There could be market areas developed accordingly.
- People are enthusiastic to be part of the program.
 - There are minimum cases of transfer of ownership to other people. It has happened only in case people cannot pay their installments timely
- Recently there have been discussions regarding need of healthpost and schools within the community. They carryout timely interactions with all the related stakeholders.

Group discussion with residents of Sampanna Basti



Participants:

- Sundra Devi Rishidev (from Bakri)
 - Panadevi Rishidev
 - Asha Rajbanshi (from Manhanwa)
 - Bina Rishidev
 - Karan Rajbansi
-
- They havenot received Lalpurja
 - 3 year have passed. Half payment has been done. For those who cannot pay installment interest is being added. They are finding it difficult to sustain
 - They have stepped in the boat so that they are stuck in between.
 - Even those who can pay everything at once,they have to wait till 5 years. Only if everyone pays, there will be division of plots.
 - They want their children to go abroad to earn further
 - One household is enough only for one child. They have to sleep outside
 - There was consultation
 - They are situated neaby forest area. There have terror of wild animals
 - They are allowed to keep livestock only after they get their household
 - Initially they were promised to provide brick wall but later on, they were provided bamboo houses.

Key Informant Interview- Duhabi Municipality Ward 10

Ward 10 Chairperson

Tularam Majhi

1. There are around 200 houses in the Dalit Baasti (including houses of Musahar, Chamaar, etc)
2. Around 79 families were eligible for the application to Mayor Housing. Ward 10 has the maximum number of applicants for the Mayor Housing.
 - a. Upon marking, only 21 families have been shortlisted based on following criteria:
 - i. No house in any part of the nation
 - ii. Difficult to meet daily needs
 - iii. Marginalized, Indigenous
 - iv. Families with disability
 - v. Families with only elderly population
 - vi. Families with single women as the family head
 - vii. Families affected by disaster
 - b. Many families who had filled the application were unaware that they would have to leave the land they are currently occupying. Most of them do not want to leave the land their families have been occupying for many generations.
 - c. The families would move around 1 km from their current area of residence. This would not affect their employment.
 - d. Dalit own about 6-10 dhur of land on average, while some have as low as 2-3 dhur. (1 dhur = 21.8 sq ft)
 - e. It would have been beneficial for the people, if the resettlement was near an industrial area.
3. Major problems of Dalit communities:
 - a. There are few issues related with citizenship among the dalit communities. Some families have not had citizenship for 2-3 generations.
 - b. Poverty and education among the dalit communities is quite poor.
 - c. Some Musahar communities are being evicted from the land owners.
4. Flooding and Disaster
 - a. To control flooding by controlling the flow of water, hume pipes have been installed in several locations.
 - b. Some settlements have been affected by the flooding on the opposite side of the embankment wall constructed some 4-5 years ago (The walls were constructed for statue of Buddha)
 - c. Due to mismanagement of waste, some dalit communities also face problems of fire from time to time

5. Ward level initiatives against disaster
 - a. Survey work done before flooding (when its rainy reason, the ward becomes extra vigilants)
 - b. Awareness is raised about potential flooding
 - c. There is collection of emergency stock to provide to the needy
6. The water level in the ward varies. There is a problem with the lower water table in the Buddha Chowk area. Some places get water at shallow level of 15 ft while some need 100-150 ft deep boring.



Interview 1

Interview with resident



- Main source of employment for the family : agriculture and industry

- The male members of the family work in the field of landlords. The sons also engage in manual labor (sand extraction) and are enlisted in the municipality employment programme.
- The family serves mostly 1 landlord for agricultural works but in need, other landlords also hire them
- The flooding erodes around 1 kattha of land (1 kathha = 544.5 sq ft)
- After a flooding, the family members sometimes engage in fishing in the rivers (number of fishes increase after the flood brings more fishes)
- The members of the family also engage in factories for 2-3 months.
- The industries sometimes provides trainings
- During the training period, the salary is less
- There was a meat processing factory that has now been closed due to issues of smell and pollution.
- Problem of fire
- Fire occurs almost yearly
- Many houses are affected since almost all the houses are made up of bamboo and timber
- The fire truck of the municipality helps to put off fire
- Mayor Housing
- The project area is too far from the current area of residence
- The project area is too far from current area of employment
- Therefore, the family is not inclined to go and live in the Mayor Housing
- The family instead wants land where they can build their own houses and grow crops
- Disaster
- Every year, the flooding is eroding the land where they live
- There is no immediate response from the municipality.
- The family generally runs away from their houses and takes shelter in the school building.
- Relief materials are provided by the municipality after 1-2 days in the form of food items.
- The ring toilets provided by the municipality gets flooded
- Tube wells- sources of water also get submerged
- Electricity is affected
- Flood affected families should be prioritized by the municipality
- Proper safety of the people who are in the verge of being engulfed by the flooding should be ensured before prioritizing roads construction by the municipality

ANNEX II: SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES:

Title: Questionnaire for Assessing Resilience of Resettled Marginalized Community

Demographic Information:

- a. Name of the community:
- b. Location of the resettled site:
- c. Date of resettlement:
- d. Contact information (optional):

Were you well informed about resettlement before moving from your origin? (yes/ no)

If yes, source of information about the program?

Media/ government officials/ previous settlers/ others

what was your feeling when you were asked to resettle?

1=Accepted it immediately;

2= rejected it first and convinced

by officials later;

3= Didn't fell anything;

4=Others

- a) Are you happy about leaving your former home village? (yes/ no)
- b) What problems forced you to resettle from your area of origin to the new location?
 - c) lack of farm land; landlessness; flooding/ hazard; loss of employment
 - d) What factors motivated you to resettle from your area of origin to the new location?
 - e) Government promise? NGOs?
- f) Have your problems been solved after resettlement? (Yes/ No)
- g) How did you find the resettlement site as compared to the information you had?

Economic Information:

- a) Former occupation in the old settlement:
- b) Former household income (in NRs per month):
- c) New occupation:
- d) Expenditure:
 - e) Has your household expenditure increased after moving in new house?
 - f) Household income (Monthly):
 - g) Total Household income per month:

- h) Has any member of your family gone for foreign employment? If yes, which country?
- i) Have you taken loan for reconstruction?
- j) Do you have cattle?
- k) What are the types of cattle you raise?
- l) Where do you keep the cattle now?
- m) Is it convenient to keep your cattle there?

Livelihood and Economic Resilience:

- a) What are the primary sources of livelihood for the community in the resettled site?
- b) How has the community managed to sustain its livelihood in the new location?

Spatial Information

- a) Current housing type:
- b) How many months have you been staying in this location?
- c) Did the community voluntarily choose to be resettled, or was it due to external factors (e.g., natural disasters, development projects)?
- d) Reason for leaving previous residence.
- e) Reason for choosing particular location
- f) Did you pay for the land plot?
- g) How were the plots decided/ redistributed?

Housing Information

Previous

- a) Previous land area/ plot size
- b) Building orientation:
- c) Number of storey:
- d) Number of rooms in old house:
- e) Space occupied by the old house (sq. ft):
- f) What was the building material of the outer walls used in your old house?
- g) What was the roof material in your old house?:
- h) What were the facilities you had before:
- i) Relationship with neighbors:

Present house:

- a) Area:
- b) Number of stories
- c) Number of rooms in new house
- d) Did you get land ownership certificate?
- e) Status of land ownership:
- f) Space occupied by the new house (sq.ft)

- g) Is the building space enough to cater for your need?
- h) Have you modified your house?
- i) What are the additional spaces that you want to have/ change in your house?

Residential Satisfaction

- a) What do you think you will be doing in six months?
- b) Is the building space enough to cater your need?
- c) Are you satisfied with your house?
- d) What are the major problems in your house?
 - Size of plot
 - Space planning to meet the needs
 - Storage space
 - Size of the house
 - Thermal comfort

Community Participation and Empowerment:

- a) How were you involved in planning the settlement?
 - Labour contribution
 - Material contribution
 - Monetary contribution
- b) Were community members consulted during the planning phase of the resettlement? (Yes/No). If yes, how were they involved in the decision-making process?
- c) Were there community meetings or consultations held to discuss the resettlement plans?
- d) Were community members encouraged to voice their needs and concerns related to the resettlement?
- e) Did the community have the opportunity to contribute to the design and layout of the new settlement?
- f) Are you satisfied with the participation in the following phases?
 - Conceptualization
 - Planning and design
 - Construction/ implementation
 - Outcome/ benefit sharing
 - Overall satisfaction
- g) In what stages were you consulted for developing this settlement?
 - Location selection
 - Planning and design
 - Material selection
 - Construction of community
 - Planning of open spaces

Disasters

- a) Have you faced any disaster/ hazard while living in the settlement?
- b) If yes, how did you cope with it?

Response and recovery?

Challenges Faced During Resettlement:

- a. What were some of the main challenges or difficulties faced by the community during the resettlement process?
- b. How did the community cope with these challenges during the initial resettlement phase?

Community Leadership and Decision-Making:

- a) Are you/ or any one in your family a member of any committee?
what benefits did you gain by being membership of such associations?
1= Income increased; 2= labour and social support; 3= credit used; 4=recognition in the community
5= others, specify
- b) Have you been part of any training program or capacity development programs?

Cultural Identity and Heritage: (How does the community preserve and promote its cultural identity and heritage in the resettled site?)

- a. Are there any cultural events or celebrations that are significant to the community?

Access to Essential Services:

- a. Are essential services such as healthcare, education, clean water, and sanitation readily available in the resettled site?
Did you have human health facilities in the previous and in new resettlement sites?
Has any one in your home been seriously sick during the last one year? (yes/ no)
How far/ near is the healthpost or hospital?

Did you have education facilities in the previous and new resettlement sites?

- b. Have there been any improvements or challenges in accessing essential services compared to the previous settlement?

Social Support and Community Cohesion: (How would you describe the sense of community and support within the resettled community? Have social networks and community cohesion played a role in building resilience during the resettlement?)

a) Relationship with neighbours

Relationship with hosts

Have community members relied on each other for support during challenging times?

Aspirations and Future Plans:

- a. What are some of the community's aspirations and hopes for the future in the resettled site?
- b. How does the community envision overcoming future challenges and enhancing its resilience?

Final Remarks:

If there are any additional comments, suggestions, or stories related to the resilience of the resettled marginalized community, please share them here.

ANNEX III: JURY COMMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS

JURY COMMENTS AND RESOLUTION			
N.	Jury	Comment	Resolution
1	Chakravarti Kanth	Need to review National Shelter Policy, 2068	Addressed in Policy Review (2.2.2)
2		Need to mention recommendations along with conclusion	Reflected in the conclusion and recommendation chapter
3		Resettlement Strategies with Land tenure, Livelihood and Financing	Reflected in 2.4
4		Sources of images	Addressed
5		Corrections of certain terminologies	Addressed
6	Kumar	It is important to go through the history of resettlement in Nepal to understand resettlement strategies adopted so far.	Reflected in 2.1.2
7	Prashad Lohani	Study on social grouping and livelihood in Sampanna Basti resettlement	Mentioned in 2.2.4, 2.2.6 and 2.4
8		Resettlement emphasis on the social cohesion and its linkage to spatial features of the settlement	Reflected and elaborated on 6.1 (6.1.3)
9	Dr. Jagadish Chandra	It is important to consider why people move and why they don't in case of resettlement	Noted
10	Pokharel	Urban and rural context of resettlements are different	Addressed in 7.1

ANNEX IV: IOEGC14 ACCEPTANCE LETTER AND PAPER



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Date: November 26, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that the paper titled "**Exploring Resilience in Planned Resettlement: A Case of Sampanna Basti, Biratnagar-12**" (Submission# 666) submitted by **Shirish Maharjan** as the first author has been accepted after the peer-review process for presentation in the 14th IOE Graduate Conference being held during Nov 29 to Dec 1, 2023. Kindly note that the publication of the conference proceedings is still underway and hence inclusion of the accepted manuscript in the conference proceedings is contingent upon the author's presence for presentation during the conference and timely response to further edits during the publication process.

Bhim Kumar Dahal, PhD
Convener,
14th IOE Graduate Conference



Exploring Resilience in Planned Resettlement: A Case of Sampanna Basti, Biratnagar-12

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Abstract

Nepal has initiated several resettlement initiatives for affected communities to deal the issues of poverty, landlessness, and enhance living standards. However, these projects often tend to neglect the elements of resilience and sustainability, resulting in unsuccessful resettlements. Therefore, it is essential to integrate resilience into the planning process right from the start, ensuring the effectiveness and success of resettlement.

This study explores resettlement initiative as applied to marginalized populations, focusing on the case of Sampanna Basti in Biratnagar-12. Field study, observation, questionnaire survey and key-informant interview has been done to understand the approach of resettlement. It studies the real ground issues from the 'Sampanna Basti' resettlement project in Biratnagar-12, initiated by collaboration of local bodies, NGOs and INGOs, by considering factors of resilience such as community engagement, socio-economic considerations, infrastructure development, institutional support, and disaster risk reduction measures. The study also covers the understanding of previous settlement of Malhanwa and Bakhri of Biratnagar-12 to understand the originality, socio-cultural and economic perspective of the resettled population. By analyzing the experiences and outcomes of this specific case, the research contributes to a deeper understanding of how different components of resilience are represented in the resettlement strategy.

Keywords

Resettlement, resilience, strategy, marginalized community

1. Introduction

Nepal, the country of diverse topography and varying climate has over 80% of population at risk of flooding, landslides, droughts, and extremely high temperatures [1]. The construction of large-scale hydropower plants in Nepal, some of which are in highly unstable areas, poses another concern. In order to address these issues, communities in the affected areas are displaced and relocated, which helps to assure their safety and well-being [1]. After the earthquake of 2072 in Nepal, integrated settlements were built with the goal of ensuring future earthquake safety. These communities were created to provide easy access to necessities including water, power, roads, healthcare, and education. In 19 districts, the government constructed integrated model towns with the help of the NRA [2]. Based on different studies, people who were expected to benefit from these housing units, however, still lack homes due to a number of instances where they were not useable. The empty homes in the new community show how much effort has been put into the process yet has been declared ineffective [2]. There are resettlement practices led by different approaches by different agencies leading to different results. However, there still arises question on how to make planned resettlement people friendly that increases acceptability of people. The World Bank's Handbook of Reconstruction after Natural Disasters [3] further examined some of the reasons why relocation is often unsuccessful and noted factors such as the inadequacy of new sites and socially inappropriate settlement layouts. In order to increase the resilience and long-term well-being of the affected people, safer living conditions, better infrastructure, and less exposure to dangers are required. In this scenario, strengthening community

resilience and putting appropriate resettlement policies into practice become essential for helping these communities' recovery and sustainable development [4]. It is essential to identify the key elements that enhance community resilience and empower vulnerable communities to continue their livelihoods. Resilience is important for the long-term success and sustainability of resettlement strategies. The prospect of resilience should begin from existing policies and analyzing the existing policies in terms of resilience will help recognize areas for improvement and ensure that resettlement strategies are sustainable and capable of withstanding future uncertainties [5].

There are various concerns regarding the effectiveness of such resettlement efforts in different parts of Nepal as the extent to which these programs are successful in achieving their outcomes is under question. In this study, the case area is the Sampanna Basti in Biratnagar-12, which was designed in cooperation with Biratnagar Metropolitan and development partners. It was intended to resettle squatter settlements, primarily inhabited by marginalized people living along Bakhari and Malhanwa in Biratnagar. The resettlement at Sampanna Basti is an initiative to relocate those marginalized people living in flood prone area, designed to provide housing and land to the landless marginalized community.

2. Objectives

The main objective of the study is to analyze the factors of planned resettlement from a resilience perspective.

1. To understand the components of resilience required in

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resettlement planning in order to enhance acceptability of people towards resettlement strategies

2. To examine the experiences and perspectives of marginalized populations in Sampanna Basti, Biratnagar-12 in resettlement process

3. Literature Review

Resettlement is the process by which individuals or a group of individuals leave their original settlement sites voluntarily or involuntarily in order to resettle in new areas where they can start new lifestyle trends by adapting to the biophysical, social, and administrative systems of the new environment [6]. As defined by World Bank, resettlement can be defined as the overall practice of helping displaced individuals and communities rebuild or improve their standard of living at their new settlement [3]. The major causes of displacement can be due to three main reasons, namely, conflict-induced displacement (primarily caused by social-political upheavals), disaster-induced displacement and development-induced displacements [6].

Resettlement in Nepal

In context of Nepal, planned resettlement officially began in 1954 post the relocation of affected families from the great monsoon flood in Chitwan Valley under the Rapti Valley Development Programme. The Nepal Resettlement Department and the Nepal Resettlement Company oversaw resettlement operations beginning in the 1960s. The Resettlement Company was eventually abolished in 1988 after numerous restructurings of the resettlement agencies over the years, but the Resettlement Department was kept under the Ministry of Housing and Physical Planning [7]. Communities have occasionally needed to be relocated for projects like hydropower plants, road building, and urban expansion. Programs for relocation related to conservation have also been deemed to be primarily challenging. Examples of relocation from Rara National Park to Bardiya exist. Similarly, the Padampur Resettlement was a government-led effort that began in 1995 and took nine years to complete [8]. In addition, communities were relocated as a result of Nepal's internal conflict between the mid-1990s and the mid-2000s because of concerns about security and political unrest. After the conflict, some efforts were made to resettle and reintegrate those displaced communities [9].

There have been community driven reconstructions as well as agency driven resettlements. NRA has enacted a guideline on integrated settlement development since 2073 BS, for those who freely desired to relocate that mobilizes both local government and beneficiaries DLPIU or agency selected by NRA [10]. Numerous resettlement initiatives have been implemented in Nepal in recent years with the goal of reducing poverty, ending homelessness, and enhancing living conditions.

Resettlement: Theories and Concepts

Likewise, resettlement being the global issue, there have been resettlement efforts and practices around the world. Many scholars have derived their theories and models. As per Cernea's Impoverishment Risks and Reconstruction Model (IRR) people who have been resettled may encounter multiple issues of socio-economic and cultural difficulty both during and after their actual relocation. The model suggests that resettled people

could go through various socio-economic and cultural impoverishment risks during the physical transfer. It explains the risks of people in terms of their joblessness, homelessness, landlessness, marginalization, food insecurity, loss of access to common property and social disarticulation [11]. Similarly, De Wet's Inadequate Inputs and Inherently Complex Approaches argue that there are two major theories that can be used to explain why resettlement projects frequently fail. The frequent failure of planned resettlement is primarily attributed to its special characteristics, which can impose changes in socioeconomic and political access to resources and accelerated socioeconomic changes that may be beyond people's capacity to cope with. These models reflect the importance of sustainability and resilience in the resettlement programs that help people centric planning approaches and at the same time, assists coping with disturbances created by resettlement. To assist the rehabilitation and sustainable development of these populations in such a setting, it becomes essential to ensure community resilience and undertake successful relocation initiatives [4].

Understanding Resilience in Resettlement

The term "resilience" was used by the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) in the Hyogo Framework of Action (HFA, 2005-2015), which emphasizes "building resilience of nations and communities to disasters". Since then, there have been various theories and dimensions of resilience that have been explored. The confusion still exists between the concept of DRR and resilience despite their conceptual distinctions. DRR focuses on minimizing "vulnerabilities" and recognizing disaster risks, whereas resilience looks at a system's capacity to maintain its fundamental structure and functions despite going through systemic changes as a result of disturbances [12].



Figure 1: Framework for Participatory resettlement

Resilience looks beyond the physical aspect and seeks for inclusion of different aspects like economic, social and livelihood generation. The relationship between resettlement and livelihood generation is defined by various scholars. Mc Dowell demands for such a theoretical fusion as well as the necessity to determine the function of institutions, associations, and other types of interactions in mediating their power over the resources required to reconstruct livelihoods [13]. Framework for participatory resettlement is shown in Figure 1. The sustainability of a way of life includes three primary elements: ecological sustainability; long-term resilience; and a sustainable

improvement in livelihood as assessed by the reduction in poverty and livelihood enhancement [13].

Many studies identified a model for assessing societal risks after the resettlement of the displaced population and presented guidelines and checklist for community participation in the resettlement process witnessing the involvement of people as key aspect to restoring resilience. The framework for participatory resettlement have identified five major components [14]:

Frameworks of Resilience in Resettlement

Based on the literature reviews of different frameworks of sustainability, livelihood and resilience of the communities and cities, a framework has been developed. It presents the areas of analysis of the resettlement process based on the components described as social capital resilience, economic resilience, infrastructure and disaster resilience and institutional aspects [13, 15, 16].

Table 1: Framework of Resilience in resettlement planning

Components	Sub-components	Sources
Social capital resilience	Community participation	People framework [15],
	Place attachment and social cohesion	
Economic Resilience	Socio-Cultural sensitivity	Baseline Resilience Indicators for Communities (BRIC) [16],
	Accessibility	
	Livelihood Support	
	Capacity Building	
Infrastructure and Disaster Resilience	Inclusivity	Sustainable livelihood framework [13]
	Disaster Risk Reduction	
	Social Connectivity	
	Critical Infrastructures	
Institutional Aspect	Housing types and needs	
	Advocacy and Policy support	
	Engagement of stakeholders	
	Land tenure and land ownership	

Reviewed Cases:

Kirtipur Samriddha Awash: Active mobilization of different agencies like Kathmandu Metropolitan including Lumanti Support group for Shelter, Nepal Basobas Basti Samrakshan Samaj to form Urban Community Support Fund (UCSF) helped to overcome economic challenges. Socially, the community has developed a strong sense of unity over time. the community also has enough utilities and infrastructure in place.

Duhabi Municipality-“Nagarpramukh Awash Yojana”: The initiative has not yet been put into action because the recipients of the houses have not yet been chosen. Some potential beneficiaries have expressed concerns about how the housing program will affect their ability to support themselves in addition to the implementation that is still to come. The major focus is on infrastructure and disaster resilience whereas no specific concerns for institutionalization, and economic and social resilience.

Integrated resettlement at Panipokhari, Bosimpa: The majority of beneficiaries of the housing programmes have decided to live in old settlement in Bosimpa rather than relocating to the integrated settlement initiated by NRA at Panipokhari, Dolakha as people donot want to live their lifestyle behind which raises the concerns of housing satisfaction and sustainability incorporated in planning and process [17, 18].

There have been noticeable differences in the planning and implementation of resettlement initiatives in the relevant cases. In a similar context, the study of Sampanna Basti in Biratnagar-12 to learn more about the methods it has used to address these issues of resilience.

4. Methodology

The research falls under pragmatic paradigm as it employs both qualitative and quantitative research methods to generate knowledge that is rooted mostly to human experience. The research adopts case study approach and aims to explore dimensions of resilience in planned resettlement of Biratnagar-12. The study focuses on understanding the specific issues and constraints faced by marginalized population in Biratnagar’s resettlement initiatives in exploring strategies to enhance the resilience of these efforts. The review of selected cases of national and international cases was carried out to understand the practice of resettlement approaches. Based on the revied cases, it focuses on single case of Biratnagar that aims to understand complex phenomena, such as individual experiences, social processes, organizational practices by examining them in their real-life context.

Qualitative data is gathered through interviews or focus group discussions with the resettled population and relevant stakeholders while quantitative data is collected through surveys and GIS maps. The unstructured questionnaire was developed for the key informants of the area. Some unstructured interviews were also taken from the local residents. The data were triangulated with the different views obtained from the users, local committee representatives and relevant stakeholders. Of the approximately 145 plots in the case area, 49 had houses built in them. And most of the houses were being used. Of these 49 houses, sample of 21 houses were taken at random with consideration to cover diverse cases. The respondent’s willingness to participate was also taken into serious consideration for the interview. Accordingly data analysis was done through content and thematic analysis using atlas.ti tool to obtain the result.

5. Case Area

Biratnagar-12 often experiences disasters frequently, upsetting the lives of its residents and harming their environment. In response, the community would provide temporary housing in a communal facility for a few weeks with the assistance of the local government and several NGOs. However, this approach left the already disadvantaged underprivileged groups living in deteriorating conditions in improvised shelters. After the devastating flooding in 2074 BS, a joint endeavor between the local government, NGOs, and INGO was started in an effort to assist these disadvantaged populations.

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Before actually planning for Sampanna Basti, the local government had built resettlement in ward no. 19 to house 32 landless households that experienced yearly flooding as a result of their low-lying location. Sahara Nepal and Habitat for Humanity worked together on this project, and each household contributed labor. With this experience, the households did not acquire landownership, however, and continued to be landless because the municipality lacked land ownership, and thus, impeding process of the progressive community and no specific change in livelihood of people. Taking lessons from the past, the municipality with the previous partners brought a new scheme and teamed up with Jiban Bikash Samaj to offer loans to families so they could buy their own land.

5.1 Case Area Study And Observation

Most of the People residing at resettlement site, i.e. Sampanna basti- Biratnagar-12 have been relocated from Bakhari and Malhanwa (old settlements). It is important to acquire a basic idea of their way of life in their previous settlement before comprehending the resettlement process at Sampanna Basti.



Figure 2: Connection of Old settlement to Sampanna Basti (Resettlement)

5.1.1 Context of Old Settlement

The majority of those who benefit from the new settlement are from Bakhari and Malhanawa, which are located in BMC-12. The Keshaliya River causes the areas near these communities to frequently flood on a yearly basis. The Tharus, Kamats, and Rajbansis are just a few of the many ethnic groups that make up this area's population. The majority of these are Musahars, who live in regions that are referred to as "ailani." In the past, many Musahars from Rangeli in India moved to this region to work as workers for local landowners. Even though the Musahar group has continued to live there, the landowners have sold off various sections of land throughout time. Due to this circumstance, marginalized community of the society now lives next to rivers

and along the streets, rendering them particularly vulnerable to the yearly flooding. They have very limited access to resources and are routinely denied social, economic, and political chances.

Social Aspects: The houses are primarily made of wood and straw with bamboo mesh walls that have been plastered with mud on both sides. Each dwelling unit typically has no more than two rooms, with a total area of about 15 feet by 10 feet that may fit at least three family members. People continue to live in dilapidated dwellings in some parts of Malhanawa. These homes are routinely destroyed by yearly floods. Although some people have moved to Sampanna basti, many homes in the old settlement still face difficult circumstances. Due to difficulties with correct documentation and financial instability, they are unable to make it to the new settlement and unable to repair their dilapidated dwellings. Access to education has been made better in recent years for the Musahar community due to presence of the government school nearby, like Bakhari Adharbhat Bidhyalaya and Janata Adharbhat Bidhyalaya. There are basic health services available through local health posts and Koshi hospital situated near by. The roads are good enough for ambulances, in case of emergencies.

Livelihood and Economic Opportunities: The major source of income for the communities is working as a labor in agriculture, industry, or workers at government offices. Men are mostly engaged in hard labor, while women take part in easier jobs in agriculture. However, there seems to be a lack of long term thinking about economic development and improvement in living standard. The people earn for a few days, leave their employment, spend the money- survive on what has been earned and search for new employment. The cycle continues.

5.1.2 Site Study Area: Sampanna Basti (New Settlement)



Figure 3: Houses in Sampanna Basti

The new settlement is situated in Biratnagar ward no. 12. The total land area of 3 bigha and 16 kattha has been segregated for the settlement to accommodate housing for 145 households. Each household gets an area of 10 dhur among which house is constructed in 7 dhur and 3 dhur is segregated for road. The additional facilities to be incorporated in the plan includes health centre, child development centre and a community building. There are also provisions of training activities to enhance income generating activities in the new settlement.

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payment for their assistance. This strategy not only facilitated the construction process but also created a fair and inclusive approach to labor distribution within the community.

6. Analysis and Findings

The selected households and interviewees were asked the structured and semi structured questionnaires respectively. Various cases of households under different circumstances have been taken to understand ground reality of the planning process. The cases and the findings are explained as follows:

6.1 Qualitative Analysis: Stories of Hope and Hindrances

Case I: One who has been living in the new settlement

- The long commute to school and workplace poses challenges in accessibility in new settlement
- Seasonal livelihood presents financial instability, making consistent payments challenging.
- Biased employment practices in nearby industries contribute to local residents' joblessness.
- Active participation in housing decisions has empowered residents and improves satisfaction.
- Changes in housing plans and materials could create confusion and undermine confidence in the project and residents.

Case II: One who has started her own business in the new settlement

- The potential effectiveness of well-executed resettlement initiatives and transformative power of resettlement strategies.
- The respondent's entrepreneurial initiative illustrates adaptability and resilience in securing her family's future.

Case III: One who doesn't want to leave the old settlement

- The new settlement's distance presents challenges for work and education, making it an impractical choice for the family.
- The costs of land purchase and monthly installments are financially unfeasible, making the new settlement unaffordable for them.
- Their deep attachment to their old way of life and concerns about moving, livestock, finances, and perceived inequality drive their decision.

Case IV: One who is living in old settlement and did not get house in new settlement

- Economic instability affects the eligibility, and documentation barriers contribute to exclusion from support, highlighting systemic challenges.

- Unsafe living conditions emphasize the urgent need for better housing solutions.
- Financial constraints further exacerbate the difficulties faced by her family.
- The story underlines the challenges posed by program limitations and eligibility criteria.

Case V: One who could not pay monthly installments and had to move back to old settlement

- Unemployment contributes to financial instability and difficulties in meeting financial obligations. Irregular loan repayments reveal challenges posed by fluctuating income and seasonal work.
- Challenges in implementing programs intended to help marginalized families underscore the need for comprehensive and well-executed strategies and raise questions about the effectiveness in providing tangible benefits to those in need.

Case VI: One who arrived midway in new settlement taking place of another household

- The respondent's partial involvement in construction may have impacted her connection to the house and settlement.
- Lack of property preview raises concerns about transparency and informed decision-making.
- Previous occupants' experiences indicate evidence of financial instability for payment of installments.
- Location of the house near the river highlights potential safety issues and underscores the importance of careful site selection.

6.2 Descriptive Analysis

House modifications to analyze socio-cultural sensitivity and adaptive capacity of households

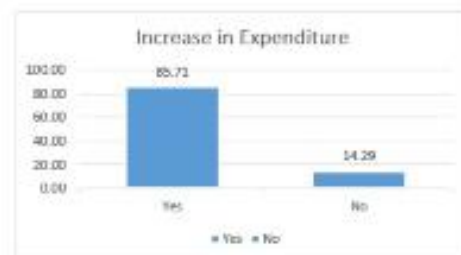


Figure 7: Bar graph showing house modifications in resettlement

As shown in the graph, 71% of respondents have made changes to the original house planning. The fact that house owners are taking the initiative to modify their houses suggests that the original housing designs did not sufficiently consider the diverse family needs of beneficiaries. Besides, the modifications also

signifies the resourcefulness of the beneficiaries as they have taken matters into their own hands, showcasing their determination to create their inhabitation that are better suited to their daily lives. This adaptability indicates their sense of ownership and empowerment to the settlement.

Comparison of Previous Occupation and Present Occupation

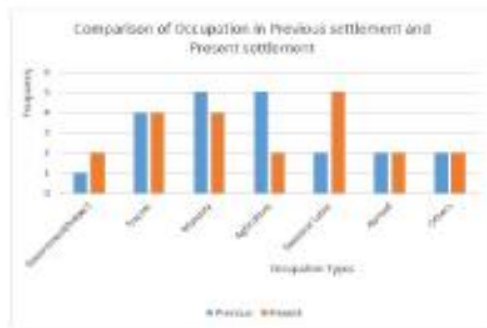


Figure 8: Bar graph showing comparison of previous and present occupation after resettlement

When asked about their occupations in both the old and new settlements, a significant number of responses were related to agriculture. However, upon relocating to the new settlement, there has been a decline in agricultural activities, accompanied by an increase in seasonal labor work. This shift suggests a transition from stable agricultural jobs to more seasonal employment opportunities, highlighting the current lack of consistent and stable employment options for the community members in the new settlement.

7. Discussion

Research discussion is carried out on the basis of table as the areas of analysis:

7.1 Social Capital Resilience

Community participation: The resettled community has actively participated by providing labor for the project and are actively involved in decision-making because they are members of users' committees. Women are receiving extra attention because they have demonstrated greater awareness than men. They community regard themselves as significant contributors to the project since they cooperate and assume responsibility. This sense of responsibility and active involvement has helped improve their ability to handle problems and make their community better.

Place attachment and social cohesion: People in the settlement are filled with a variety of emotions. Some are happy with where they live now, while others still like their old homes because their families still reside there. A crucial factor that fosters this cohesion is the shared ethnicity that unites most residents. This shared cultural identity serves as a unifying factor, encouraging a sense of unity and belonging that surpasses personal differences.

People are so strongly attracted to the location where social integration is practiced.

Socio-cultural sensitivity: In terms of the resettlement's socio-cultural resilience, it is significant that most of the residents come from the 'Rishidev' group, who share similar values and a way of life. Although the housing constructions meet the basic demands for shelter, it is still debatable how much they consider social and cultural concerns. People who live in the Sampanna Basti, nonetheless frequently visit their old homes to visit family, demonstrating a persistent attachments to their old social networks. In contrast to their previous lifestyle, when animals played a vital role in their way of life and cultural rituals, the current resettlement lacks provisions for maintaining cattle. Their social dynamics and customs are affected by this transformation. This demonstrates how infrastructure and cultural norms interact during relocation, as practical requirements and long-standing customs affect how facilities are used.

Adaptive capacity: The ongoing modifications to the homes illustrate how adaptable the planning process is and how well the community is able to meet its changing demands in the new surroundings. The fact that people are actively making changes to their homes implies that some flexibility was included into the resettlement's initial planning. Due to their ability to adapt, occupants can modify their living arrangements to better meet their unique needs based on personal preferences, cultural norms, or family size. However, the housing needs should have been taken care of before hand.

7.2 Economic Resilience

Accessibility: The challenges of economic resilience are evident in the resettled community's circumstances. The workplace's remote location and poor road connectivity create a considerable barrier to appropriate road access. This not only makes commuting difficult but also reduces the prospects for stable employment. However, the majority of households have bicycles for daily commuting. The reluctance of landowners to engage them in cultivation activities due to their ethnicity and marginalization highlights a lack of economic integration and opportunities, which could impact their livelihoods and economic well-being. These factors emphasize how critical it is to solve accessibility difficulties in order to improve economic resilience. Better road connectivity and transportation facilities may make it easier to access markets and jobs.

Livelihood opportunities: Numerous variables pose a threat to the community's economic resilience. The first is that they have few options for a living, which may limit their capacity to earn a living and raise their financial well-being. Their marginalized status, which repeatedly prevents access to a wide variety of possibilities, worsens this limitation. Furthermore, a financial obstacle is presented by the obligation to pay large monthly installments of Rs. 7000. The increasing costs associated with these payments put a burden on their financial resources, perhaps that hinders their ability to meet other basic requirements and make investments in sources of income.

Capacity building: Despite undergoing masonry training to build their own homes, the learned skills were not put to good use after the homes were built. The training initiative's

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underutilization raises concerns about its long-term economic effects and contribution to the community's economic resilience. There is lack of further training initiatives that can generate income. Without the chance to learn new skills or look into alternate sources of income, the community's economic resilience is still limited. Their inability to diversify their skill sets and sources of income may limit their capacity to withstand shocks to the economy or pursue sustainable economic growth in the future. Consequently, a more complete strategy to training and skill development is required, which goes beyond house construction and incorporates wider livelihood enhancement techniques.

Inclusivity: Men in the community have inconsistent work schedules, which has an impact on their financial security. Contrarily, women work in seasonal agricultural, which generates some income. Concerns are raised regarding the lack of chances in surrounding industries that would offer more reliable employment. In this case, inclusion is a crucial concern. The fact that locals are not getting jobs in surrounding companies makes one wonder if everyone in the neighborhood is getting a fair shot. Because it confines their access to a variety of income sources, this lack of inclusivity may have an influence on their capacity for economic resilience. Additionally, because they belong to marginalized community, they have trouble getting access to higher-paying employment and leadership roles. This limits their economic options and strengthens their marginalization. The lack of opportunities for advancement and higher posts suggests that the economic resilience of the community is constrained by systemic barriers that need to be

7.3 Infrastructure and Disaster Resilience

Disaster Risk Reduction: The area is vulnerable to flooding during times of heavy rain or rising water levels because of its proximity to Kelsalya river. The property has been designated as a crucial area for flooding by Biratnagar's Risk Sensitive Land Use Plan (RSLUP), suggesting a high potential for flood-related risks and hazards. Although retaining walls have been built, the region's essential vulnerability to flooding still requires caution. Because there are no physical boundaries, the reestablished village is vulnerable to wildlife, which could endanger people's safety, livestock, and crops. This risk has interfered with people's everyday lives, means of support, and general wellbeing.

The new settlement is located in a high-risk area which raises questions about the settlement's ability to withstand natural disasters. The individual houses are resilient enough to withstand any stress, however, the settlement itself is located in a high-risk area. The settlement's location within a high-risk area suggests that it may be vulnerable to a variety of unfavorable occurrences, such as floods, landslides, or other potential dangers that could endanger the community's infrastructure and safety.

Social connectivity: The old settlement is located around 25 minutes' walk from Sampanna Basti. Due to the high number of people who still have relatives in their original community, the resettlement maintains strong social ties. People are still dependent on the facilities and services close to the old settlement. Social support networks are strengthened by having access to and interaction with friends, family, and acquaintances

in different communities. Individuals and families can turn to their wider social networks for support, resource sharing, and direction in times of need or disaster.

Critical infrastructures: The Sampanna Basti clearly lacks sufficient access to road networks, as shown by the map survey and transect walk around the area. Critical infrastructure is more readily available when basic utilities like electricity, water supply, sanitation, and communication networks are present. However, the town is dependent on older communities for its educational and medical needs. The results of medical emergencies have been worse as people take longer to get to health services. Lack of timely access to emergency services reduces the community's resilience and its ability to deal with unforeseen disasters.

7.4 Institutional Aspect

Advocacy and Policy support: The community takes a positive stance in building institutional resilience by establishing partnerships with NGOs and INGOs like Sahara Nepal and Habitat for Humanity. The creation of a user's committee strengthens their institutional capacity and enables them to take an active part in lobbying and engagement campaigns. This collaborative approach encourages information sharing, group decision-making, and collaborative projects that improve the community's overall institutional well-being. The community's capacity to maintain order occasionally encounters issues.

Land tenure and land ownership: The community acquires a platform to defend its interests and pursue justice in the event of land-related disputes or injustices by having legal ownership of the land. Through this legal protection, the communities' capacity for economic resilience is significantly increased. With a stable land tenure, they can securely engage in economic activities, invest in other resources and build long-term plannings.

Engagement of stakeholders: Stakeholders like HfH, SAHARA-Nepal, and JBS have helped build a network of support that encourages information sharing, collaborative projects, and well-coordinated projects through their active engagement and collaboration. The project's success has been greatly enhanced by this collaborative approach. For the construction of various relief distribution programs like "Food for Shelter" and cash distribution initiatives, there have been regular presentations that highlight the real results of these cooperative efforts. Stakeholders can respond to urgent needs and deliver support in a timely manner during emergencies or natural disasters by combining their resources and expertise. The community's capacity to tolerate shocks and recover more quickly is improved by this collective reaction.

8. Conclusion and Recommendation

The resilience perspective on the resettlement of marginalized communities includes recognizing and addressing the unique vulnerabilities and challenges faced by these communities during the relocation process [19]. On the contrary to the cases of resettlements, where there is consideration of mere physical resilience with minimum consideration for social and economic perspectives, the positive outlook is seen in planning and resettlement of Sampanna Basti in its attempt to encompass

social aspects as well. This adds to the instances that the programs guided by joint efforts of national and international agencies are better able to pull off the strategies while the cases led by government agencies are lagging far behind. The community of Sampanna Basti represents strong physical resilience from individual housing perspective. However, when it is viewed from settlement standpoint, the community lags at different aspects. Despite the attempt, issues related to accessibility, economic stability, and higher installment amounts to be paid by poor people pose challenges regarding social and economic resilience. It is imperative that planners include factors of economic and social resilience into their planning strategy. The study shows that adopting a resilience-oriented strategies incorporates sense of attachment and long term well being of the resettled community.

Based on the research, there should be development of initiatives for community consultation, participation, decision making and contribution from the beginning of planning phase to provide them sense of ownership. This should be followed by community-driven projects which demand collective effort and teamwork. Designers should conduct the study of socio-cultural aspects of the community before initiating the design of identical modules. In order to enhance economic resilience, it is essential to provide financial literacy materials in local language and establish certain groups where members pool savings and earn collectively. There should be prioritization of bio engineering and nature-based solutions for flood management. Besides, design of proper emergency route and development of community-based insurance scheme against Disaster Risks should be done as risk sharing mechanism for resettled population. Likewise, there should be development of conditional land tenure (lease hold tenure/ communal tenure) that helps to ease land ownership for resettled communities so that it can minimize possibility of unwanted land transactions among the beneficiaries. Private investors should be encouraged to invest in the projects that benefit such communities. Moreover, government should develop proper relocation guidelines to relocate settlements existing along the rivers to safer location as they are always at risk of flooding during monsoon season.

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ANNEX V: PLAGIARISM CHECK REPORT

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