

We help  
here and now.



**ASB Nepal -  
taking action for  
people in need.**

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Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund Deutschland e.V. (ASB)

Nepal Country Office

TCH Tower II, Apt. 4C

Lazimpat, PO Box: 19199

Kathmandu 44600, Nepal

[office@asbnepal.org](mailto:office@asbnepal.org)

[www.asb.de/en](http://www.asb.de/en)

[www.facebook.com/asbnepal](https://www.facebook.com/asbnepal)

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Yomari Graphic Printer

98510 44429

[ygprinter@gmail.com](mailto:ygprinter@gmail.com)

**ASB's Post-Earthquake Response, Recovery,  
Reconstruction and Inclusive Community  
Resilience Program in Nepal**





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# Who we are

The Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund Deutschland e.V. (ASB) is one of Germany's oldest and largest social welfare organizations providing services that address the needs of the most vulnerable and at-risk population.

ASB began in 1888 with six carpenters in Berlin at a time when there were neither health and safety regulations nor emergency rescue services and workers often sustained heavy injuries. ASB's founders successfully established the first "Training Course for First Aid after an Accident" and in 1909, the first Workers' Samaritan Groups from across Germany formed the Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund (Workers' Samaritan Federation).

Since its foundation, ASB has provided services that focus on people's needs, including care for the older people, rescue services, first aid, programs for children and youth, support for persons with disabilities and those in need of mental health and psychosocial care.

ASB's Foreign Aid department was established in 1920 and it focuses on Humanitarian Aid, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Return and Reintegration and International Samaritan Cooperation.



It provides both direct emergency relief to people hit by man-made disaster or natural hazards and longer-term rehabilitation measures designed to promote recovery and restore the livelihoods of refugees, internally displaced persons and other disaster affected people.



ASB currently has a portfolio of more than 100 relief, rehabilitation, development and disability-inclusive DRR programs in countries like Bosnia, Georgia, Haiti, Indonesia, Iraq, Kosovo, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Philippines, Serbia, Ukraine, etc.

At the same time, ASB is actively involved in regional and international policy forums and has developed a strong reputation for delivering practical inclusive DRR solutions.





ASB is also a co-founder of the Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction Network (DiDRRN) and is committed to better inform policy-makers and provide examples for greater inclusion in post-2015 DRR and development frameworks.

**Resilience, empowerment and inclusion are fundamental aspects of ASB's humanitarian and development efforts in Nepal.**

## ASB in Nepal

ASB established its operational presence in Nepal following the two massive earthquakes of April-May 2015 which resulted in widespread destruction and the loss of approximately 9,000 lives, 22,000 injuries and an economic damage of NPR 706 billion (EUR 6.1 billion), affecting disproportionately the most poor and the vulnerable.

ASB is registered with the Social Welfare Council (SWC) and coordinates its partner implemented “Post-Earthquake Response, Recovery, Reconstruction and Inclusive Community Resilience” program through its Country Office in Kathmandu.

ASB is also a member of the Association of International NGOs (AIN) in Nepal and its technical working groups on disaster management, education and disability.

ASB's interventions in Nepal are funded by the coalition of German relief organizations – Aktion Deutschland Hilft (ADH), as well as its own internal contributions.

Details of ASB's geographical presence in Nepal are presented on the map at the end of this booklet.

## Our approach

We see positive collaboration as central to delivering effective and cost-efficient programming. We work closely with local communities and civil society organisations including Disabled People's Organisations (DPOs) as well as the government and international and national non-governmental organisations (I/NGOs).

Our work in Nepal aims to increase the resilience of individuals and communities. We understand resilience as the ability to manage risk and prepare, adapt and respond to events in a changing world. These changes may come from hazard risk or through changes to society and the economy.





ASB takes inclusion seriously. We aim to ensure that all, and particularly those most at-risk, can actively participate in, and meaningfully contribute to our and our partners' work. We support and promote a whole-of-community approach. For ASB, inclusive solutions are at the very heart of effective risk management and form the foundation of resilience.

ASB's programming in Nepal supports international commitments to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SfDRR) 2015-2030 and sustainable development as a whole. We recognise that becoming resilient requires people to be empowered to act on opportunities and to take the lead in shaping their future.

## ASB's Post-Earthquake Response

ASB deployed its emergency needs assessment teams in the immediate aftermath of the earthquake and based on the identified needs and gaps in the emergency response/ coverage, initiated its rapid post-earthquake response programs in 8 worst-hit districts of Nepal in coordination with the Cluster system and the government bodies at all levels.





Up to-date, ASB's post-earthquake response interventions in Nepal have reached more than 30,000 direct beneficiaries and have included distribution of food, medical kits, hygiene supplies and other non-food items in hard-to-reach, isolated mountainous areas, provision of emergency and transitional shelter solutions and cash-for-work opportunities, construction of temporary learning centers and provision of psychosocial support to the most affected and at-risk population.

## Early Recovery

ASB's largest early recovery interventions in Nepal was the "Bungamati Transitional Shelter" project (May-October 2015) implemented in collaboration with the Danish People's Aid (DPA).

The project established a temporary workshop in the village, trained locals and constructed 297 units of transitional shelter with life expectancy of 3 to 5 years. Bungamati shelter construction teams were formed providing employment opportunities to 75 women and men, including local carpenters and masons.



In addition, relevant technical training was provided to the wider community on construction of their permanent homes, ensuring that they are well-equipped with the required knowledge and skills for building back better and safer.

## Reconstruction and Risk Aware Development

ASB's "Post-Earthquake Reconstruction and Resilience Building" program aims to support reconstruction and build the resilience of the earthquake-affected, most at-risk communities of the Nalang VDC in one of the worst hit districts of Nepal, Dhading, through the:

1. Establishment of a locally accessible interlocking adobe (soil) brick production facility and supporting the selected most at-risk households in rebuilding their homes in a better and safer way (construction of at least 144 model, multi-hazard resistant houses);
2. Establishment of an inclusive, community owned information and support center and capacity building programs for enhancing local knowledge and skills for building back better;
3. Provision of improved WASH infrastructure and awareness raising on personal hygiene;
4. Provision of training and resources for building the improved smokeless cooking stoves and promotion of sustainable environmental practices for enhanced health and environment.



In the long run, the project is also expected to support creation of better future employment opportunities through the transfer of knowledge and technical skills enhancement, as well as potential income generation through the interlocking adobe brick press production center.

The project has been designed based on the participatory needs assessment carried out by ASB and its local partner, Ecological Protection Forum (EPF) in the targeted area as well as close coordination with all relevant stakeholders including the National Reconstruction Agency (NRA) and other government agencies at all levels to address the local needs with culturally acceptable solutions, ensure ownership, sustainability and potential replication of the model/ approach in other earthquake affected areas of Nepal.

## **Building Inclusive and Resilient Communities**

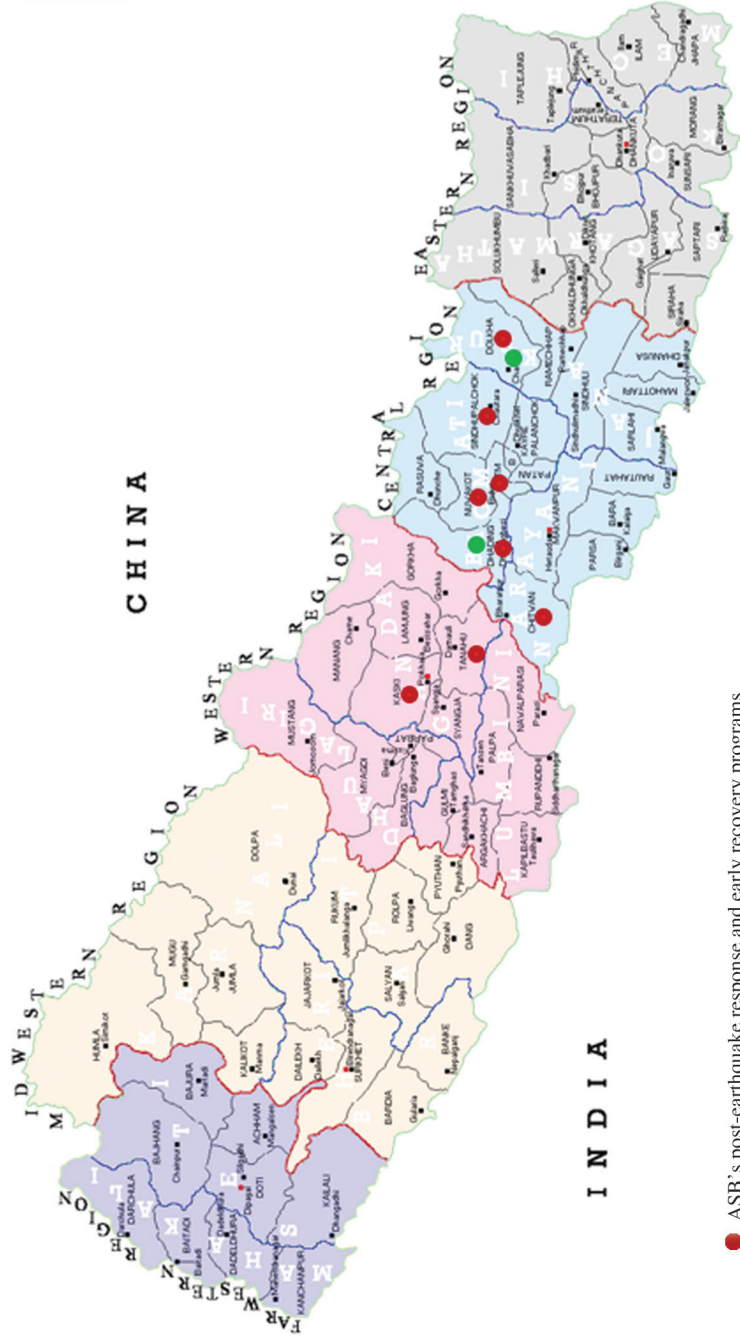
ASB is working closely with the READ Information and Resource Center (READ Nepal) and DPOs on building inclusive and resilient communities within the framework of the “Disability-inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction (DiDRR) through the Community Libraries” program.

The program for the first time in Nepal will establish an accessible and inclusive community library/ resource center where people with and without disabilities will have an access to information and economic opportunities for a better future.

Trainings on livelihood skills, literacy, health education and information and communications technology (ICT) will be provided through the newly rebuilt and safe libraries for women, children, older people, people with disabilities and other groups of the society. At the same time, the community libraries will play an important role in increasing disaster preparedness and risk reduction capacities of the communities with a particular focus on inclusion of most at-risk groups such as people with disabilities in disaster risk management processes.

The first pilot will be implemented in the Gauri Shankar Community Library in Dolakha (Bhimeshwar municipality) which will serve as a model for further replication of the disability-inclusive DRR activities in other community libraries throughout the country.

In the long-run, the action is expected to contribute towards the enhanced resilience of communities to disasters and inclusion of most at-risk groups in disaster risk management in Nepal in line with the Sendai Framework for DRR and the post-2015 development agenda.



- ASB's post-earthquake response and early recovery programs
- ASB's post-earthquake reconstruction and inclusive community resilience program





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Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund

ASB Nepal  
TCH Tower II, Apt. 4C  
Lazimpat, PO Box: 19199  
Kathmandu 44600, Nepal  
[office@asbnepal.org](mailto:office@asbnepal.org)  
[www.asb.de/en](http://www.asb.de/en)  
[www.facebook.com/asbnepal](https://www.facebook.com/asbnepal)