

04 June 2015



Hortika Joshi, national UN Volunteer
Civil Engineer (UNV Nepal, 2015)

Being there on time for the communities

Katmandu, Nepal: My name is Hortika Joshi and I am a national UN Volunteer Civil Engineer in Nepal. I am part of a United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) demolition project which, has handled the damage assessment of 250 households, benefitting approximately 1,500 people.

In the Irkhu Village Development Committee area, a thousand more buildings need to be assessed and potentially torn down within the very first weeks, before the monsoon arrives.

The current situation in Nepal is quite challenging as the earthquake has triggered landslides in many areas within the districts. Moreover, we are working to identify safe places for residents to resettle in transitional shelters before the monsoon arrives and conditions worsen. Meeting the targets is a challenge but we all know there is no other choice.

On a more personal note, I find it highly distressing to see children, elders and others living in tents without sufficient food. However, I am happy to stand with them and live in the camp while we help them bring their livelihoods back to normal. Sharing in their grief and being a part of building sustainable development for Nepal is very heart-warming. That is why I urge all Nepali people to join hands and build a better Nepal.

 Asia and the Pacific

• Nepal • earthquake • shelters

Sustainable Development Goal: [SDG 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure](#), [SDG 13: Climate change](#)