Nepal

ETC2020 Pilot Project Update

ETC Connect Day, 4 May 2016

Overview

The ETC2020 Nepal project started in September 2015. It aims to support government, humanitarian, media and private sector actors in Nepal to be better prepared for an ICT response to future disasters, with a specific focus on enabling faster and better communication <u>among communities, and between communities and relevant aid actors,</u> in times of disaster.

Key Achievements

- The ETC2020 Nepal project has had two missions in country to 1) assess requirements, 2) launch the in-country project.
- World Vision Nepal's humanitarian response innovations lab joined the project in early 2016 and is now co-leading it.
- The project team has started working with the Nepal Government and WFP Nepal on ICT capacity mapping with a focus on community communication infrastructure.
- The project, and new ETC focus on communities, were launched at a Nepal ICT lessons learned event 'INET') in Kathmandu in March 2016
- Two events (ICT4Gov training and community communication event) are planned to be held in early June 2016, under a localized 'humanitarian ICT week' model.
- The community communication event aims to highlight local initiatives (technology for community disaster communication) and support the implementation of selected projects via World Vision Nepal's humanitarian response innovations lab in Kathmandu. The event will be facilitated by an external innovations consultancy firm ('What if'), which also aims to build the capacity of local innovators in Nepal.

Challenges

- In-country capacity. The project manager is based in Rome, and the government aspects of the project require constant interaction.
- Working with non-traditional response actors, and a mix of government, regulation authorities, private sector, media and humanitarian agencies, requires a lot of effort and support to ensure everyone is on the same page with an understanding of opportunities for better community communication. There are many different interests in Nepal which can often make this challenging.
- Speed. The aim of the project is to support the efforts of, and report to, the Nepal government (via Ministry of Information and Communications) which means we do not have as much control as desired over project timelines.

Gaps

- Additional funding, and potentially in-kind support, will be required to complete the project.
- The project team is specifically seeking from partners funding support (by way of a series of approx. 30k grants), to support selected local initiatives.

Participating Organisations

ORGANISATION	ROLE
World Vision Nepal's humanitarian response innovations lab	Co-Lead
Global ETC Cell	Co-Lead
Nepal Ministry of Information and Communications	Partner
What If? Innovation	Workshop co-lead
UN Resident Coordinators Office	Participant
Nepal Telecommunications Authority (NTA)	Participant
AMARC	Participant
Young Innovations	Participant
BBC Media Action (Nepal)	Participant
Accountability Labs	Participant
Ericsson Response	Participant
GSM Association	Participant
WFP	Participant
Various Nepal private sector and media actors	Workshop participants

Information

https://www.etcluster.org/project/etc2020-project-nepal

To be involved in the ETC2020 Nepal project, contact:

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