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Strengthening the National Rural Transport Program (SNRTP) Nepal

An employment program that improves access to reliable
infrastructure in rural communities

Summary

The SNRTP program, an ILO Employment Intensive Investment Program, was intended to improve rural transportation infrastructure. It was implemented through a “bilateral agreement signed between the Department of Local Infrastructure Development and Agricultural Roads (DoLIDAR), Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MoFALD),” with the International Labor Organization. It is funded by the World Bank through a grant to the DoLIDAR and MoFALD of Nepal. 2,679 participants were recruited: 64% women, of which 8% were single women; 36% male; 80% from disadvantaged groups (1).

Rationale

The program was designed “to enhance the availability and reliability of transport connectivity for rural communities and participating districts,” (2).

Defining Principles

Poverty alleviation and the improvement of transportation accessibility.

Dates of Operation

March 2014 - September 2019.

Number of Program Participants

2,700 maintenance workers groups (3).

Person-days of Employment

5.5 million days over project cycle (4).

Criteria for Participation

Resident of Nepal.

Pay and Benefits

Average monthly wage of NPR 15,200 (USD \$152), higher than the minimum wage.

Benefits: monthly health checkup, accident insurance of up to USD 5,000, transportation to and from work.



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Financing

World Bank (ILO), 175.4 million NPR (approximately USD \$1.75 million) (6).

Implementation

In coordination with “financial institutions and service providers,” the SNRTP employs primarily women on skill development training in road maintenance and income generation to improve the economic situation (7).

Types of Work

Road maintenance, rehabilitation, and upgrading of local road networks and bridges.

Notable Features

Focus on employment for women, focus on jobs in service of greater transportation accessibility for rural residents of Nepal. Special provisions were made for the inclusion of workers with disabilities (8).

Challenges

Initial delays in implementation combined with large earthquakes struck Nepal in 2015 delaying many projects (see page 10 of WB report). While work completed was found to be of high quality, there were significant delays in the completion of some projects (10).

Program Website

<https://doli.gov.np/doligov/recently-completed-programs/project-for-strengthening-the-national-rural-transportation-program-snrtp/>



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Citations

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- (2) https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/employment-intensive-investment/publications/WCMS_822818/lang--en/index.htm
- (3) Ministry of Urban Development. Project for Strengthening the National Rural Transportation Program (SNRTP).
- (4) <https://doli.gov.np/doligov/recently-completed-programs/project-for-strengthening-the-national-rural-transportation-program-snrtp/>
- (5) The World Bank. (November, 2020). Implementation, Completion, and Results Report: Project for Strengthening the National Rural Transport Program. Report No: ICR00005041. <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/704211605461133103/pdf/Nepal-Strengthening-the-National-Rural-Transport-Program-Project.pdf>
- (6) International Labor Organization. (June, 2021). Strengthening the National Rural Transport Program (SNRTP) NEPAL: Decent employment through maintenance first approach for better road connectivity.
- (7) International Labor Organization. (June, 2021). Strengthening the National Rural Transport Program (SNRTP) NEPAL: Decent employment through maintenance first approach for better road connectivity.
- (8) International Labor Organization. (June, 2021). Strengthening the National Rural Transport Program (SNRTP) NEPAL: Decent employment through maintenance first approach for better road connectivity.
- (9) Ministry of Urban Development. Project for Strengthening the National Rural Transportation Program (SNRTP).
- (10) International Labor Organization. (June, 2021). Strengthening the National Rural Transport Program (SNRTP) NEPAL: Decent employment through maintenance first approach for better road connectivity.
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- (12) Basnyat, Dipak & Joshi, Buddhi & Joshi,. (2020). Assessment of Road Project for Accelerating Permanent Connectivity. Saudi Journal of Engineering and Technology. 05. DOI: 10.36348/sjet.2020.v05i01.001
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