



ENHANCING BHUTAN'S DISASTER RESILIENCE: THE ROYAL UNIVERSITY OF BHUTAN ON FORCE PROJECT'S IMPACT AND FUTURE COLLABORATION

Nimesh Chhetri, Lecturer and Head of the Centre for Disaster Risk Reduction and Community Development Studies at the College of Science and Technology, Royal University of Bhutan (CST-RUB), shares RUB's perspective on the FORCE Project's contributions and outlines potential areas for further collaboration with GEM and USAID BHA.

What are RUB's thoughts on the FORCE Project's contribution to earthquake preparedness in Bhutan, especially with student and faculty involvement from the College of Science and Technology?

The project outcomes will significantly benefit various stakeholders, including informing local building codes, risk mitigation strategies, resource allocation, and emergency response plans.

Students and faculty from the College of Science and Technology have actively participated in the project workshops and are using the provided materials for teaching and research. The project is expected to equip students with practical skills and provide research opportunities for faculty to integrate findings into curriculum and building code development.

How can RUB work further with GEM and USAID BHA to improve disaster management and risk reduction efforts in Bhutan, building upon the successful workshops and meetings mentioned in the article?

The successful workshops and meetings have opened up extensive possibilities for further collaboration between RUB, GEM, and USAID BHA.

RUB can act as GEM's local representative, facilitating communication, data acquisition, and curriculum development focused on disaster management and risk reduction.

The collaboration offers exciting opportunities for joint research in areas like landslide and flood hazard assessment, along with studies on non-structural elements in Bhutan. Additionally, RUB can leverage financial aid from USAID BHA and expertise from GEM to enhance ongoing or planned earthquake research projects.



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