



Hunnarshala Foundation for Building Technology & Innovations

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Interventions in Nepal

Hunnarshala Foundation is supporting Lumanti, an organization based in Nepal for rebuilding and retrofitting of 2000 houses in 8 urban and rural villages. There is a dire need of a community oriented rehabilitation program to build both the houses and confidence of people who have been severely affected by the 7.8 magnitude earthquake that wreaked havoc on the country.

Hunnarshala Foundation along with Lumanti and Community Architects NetworKs (CAN) undertook an impact assessment visit to 6 villages, both urban and rural. Lumanti had been working in these villages through women SHGs before the earthquake and had provided the communities with immediate relief.



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School at Kukeri

The students of masonry and carpentry courses did 4000 square feet of work in Shantaba Vidyalay, a school that provides free education to village children in Kukeri, Navsari district of Gujarat. Ushma Sanghavi, an architect based in Mumbai and Kiran Vaghela designed the extension of the school with various inputs provided by Tejas Kotak and Mukesh Tank. The artisan empowerment unit provided the technical assistance.



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New Batch of Students at Karigarshala

The next session of Karigarshala started from 15th June 2015 with 8 students each in carpentry and masonry courses. Two new courses; electrical and plumbing have been introduced from this session onwards.

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Testing of Wastewater Samples Continues

The water samples from different DEWATS are being tested regularly to gather results which shall be used to improve the efficiency of new DEWATS.

'Shramdaan' at Hunnarshala Campus



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Community Empowerment

Interventions in Nepal

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To set the tone for a community driven rehabilitation program, a community mapping exercise was done in Machchegan, an urban village on the periphery of Kathmandu. About 60% buildings in the village require total rebuilding while the rest can be retrofitted. Lumanti had been working with the community to redevelop the village as a heritage village on the lines of traditional Nevari Architecture. A new site layout was developed with the community using the mapping exercise that retained all the existing houses and the new houses to be built along a series of courtyards as done in Nevari Architecture. The community leaders accepted the plan and are now preparing the whole community for the redevelopment program.



Community mapping exercise in Machchegan

Urban Interventions

Slum Redevelopment

- The implementation phase of 314 houses in 3 slums; Bhimrao Nagar-1, Ramdev Nagar and GIDC-1 has started. The plots are being laid out for excavation and foundation work has begun in Ramdev Nagar and GIDC. All the beneficiaries have received their first installments.
- 2 new proposals have been submitted to the Affordable Housing Mission for the redevelopment and rehabilitation of 237 houses in 4 slums; Dindayal Nagar, Vansfoda, Bhaleshwar and Macchu Nagar.



Foundation work in progress at GIDC-1

Shelter for Urban Homeless

A proposal is being prepared for the homeless migrants in the city under the National Urban livelihoods Mission's scheme for 'Shelter for Homeless'. Rental housing stock shall be developed under the scheme to accommodate about 700 people who come to the city as migrants, living without shelters in Bhuj City. RTO Relocation site is one such site, which is proposed to be developed with rental housing stock, where about 150 migrants families are living currently.



Settlement of migrants at RTO relocation site

Street Vendors

A new proposal to organize the vendors in the city is being developed under the National Urban Livelihoods Mission's scheme for street vendors. The proposal shall include regularization of the vendors in certain areas, which has the highest concentration of the vendors. Currently no mechanism is in place in the city that can support the vendors. A stretch of land shall be redeveloped specific to the needs of the vendors including services like water, garbage disposal and electricity along with demarcated seating and spaces for the customers.



Proposed designs for the Vendors at Mundra Road, Bhuj

Indira Awas Yojana

After the completion of the study and design phase, land has been allotted for the construction of housing museums for North Gujarat and Kachchh in Himmatnagar and Bhuj respectively. The construction of each of these museums is expected to start soon.

Housing for riots affected in Muzzaffarnagar

- Construction of 29 houses is complete in Ar-yapuri while the construction of about 58 houses is underway in Kandhla. Community process has started in Bassi Kalan for the house improvement program of about 100 families.
- The process of making a community building in Kandhla has begun. The building shall be a multi-purpose space, which can be used for different purposes across all the members of the community including men, women and children.
- Northwestern Uttar Pradesh has a tradition of using flat domes as roofs. An attempt was made to understand this tradition and take it forward by building flat domes in one of the beneficiary's house. 5 flat domes were constructed in the house and Prof. Yogananda technically facilitated the whole process along with the team of artisans. This technology is to be investigated and validated further for its application in other parts of the country.



Construction of Houses in Kandhla



Construction of flat domes in Aryapuri

Artisan Empowerment

School at Kukeri

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The initial idea behind the project was to build with all the locally available materials and train the local artisans in developing the technologies. But the local artisans could not be trained due to various reasons. It was then decided to build the school with the students of Karigarshala who will be able to gain on-site hands-on experience through this project.

The project was a challenging and unique opportunity for the students to hone their skills, as it required major volume of work to be completed within a period of 3 months. The masonry students worked with technologies like rammed earth, CSEB, adobe and ferro-cement while the carpentry students built the wooden understructures, doors and windows of the extension. The entire 4000 square feet of work was completed in the specified time period with innovations in technologies.

Buddhist Centre, Sakarwadi

Artisan empowerment unit is collaborating with Architect Sameep Padora built a Buddhist Centre in Sakarwadi, Maharashtra. About 8000 square feet of work is to be done which includes rammed earth, wooden understructures and thatch roof. The on-site construction is expected to begin soon.

Institute for Studies and Transformation

The Institute for Studies and Transformation (IST) in Ahmedabad is being designed by Architect Hiten Kakariya and built by the artisan empowerment unit. The extension includes guesthouse, kitchen & dining and training halls. The construction work majorly includes rammed earth walls and wooden understructures.

Farmhouse, Jamnagar

The farmhouse for Dr. Villas Sathey is complete in all respects with the finishing done with stabilised mud plaster.



School Extension, Kukeri

Penha de Franca, Goa

About 2000 square feet of restoration work has been completed in Penha de Franca, Goa. A team of 6 artisans had worked in collaboration with Heritage Acoustics to restore the entire church building using the lime plaster recipe by Dr. Allan.



Restoration work in progress at Penha de Franca

Knowledge Networks

Karigarshala

- The next session of Karigarshala started from 15th June 2015 with 25 students in carpentry and masonry courses.
- Basics of electrical and plumbing have been added to both carpentry and masonry courses from this session onwards.
- The curriculum has been revised this year with inclusion of 3 months on-site internship. The internship will enable the students to receive hands-on experience on real time sites before they actually join the incubation companies in the year to follow post the study program.



New batch of Carpentry Students



New batch of Masonry Students

Research and Development

- The samples from various DEWATS are being tested on a regular basis to generate data which shall be applied to develop systems to increase the efficiency of DEWATS.
- A proposal to build a DEWATS with a capacity of litres for 108 dwelling units in Rajkot has been submitted to the Gujarat Housing Board.

Dissemination, Seminars and Workshops

- Bhujio Samwardhan Samiti (Supported by Hunnarshala Foundation) invited Rajiv Kathpalia, the chief architect of Smritivan, the earthquake victim's memorial to give a presentation to the citizens of Bhuj about the project and discuss the growing concerns and anticipation around the project. The event was organized on 24th April in the Jilla Panchayat of Bhuj. Rajiv Kathpalia later visited Hunnarshala Foundation campus to discuss possible indigenous plantation in 406 acre memorial which has 98 small and big check dams along with a culture museum, centre for handicrafts, earthquake simulation room etc.
- About 200 people gathered at the Bhujio hill on a Sunday evening in April to raise awareness about the biodiversity concerns in Bhujio hill. Bhujio Samwardhan Samiti (Bhujio Samwardhan Samiti) that has also placed a guard on patrol to stop the destruction of biodiversity organized the event. Artist Navin Soni and his Jigar Soni sketched the Bhujio hill live. The Samiti is planning to organize many more such events to start an engagement with the people of Bhuj for biodiversity issues.
- A plantation drive was organized in Hunnarshala on 26th June 2015. The entire staff of Hunnarshala Foundation along with all the students of Karigarshala planted about a 100 saplings on the forestland adjacent to the campus. The idea behind this was to inculcate a culture of doing things collectively, which do not feature in the day-to-day work profile of the staff.