



ERRA

Monthly NEWS BULLETIN

Earthquake Reconstruction & Rehabilitation Authority

March 2009

MARCHING ON TOGETHER BUILD BACK BETTER



Editor's Note

ERRA presents its first monthly News Bulletin for readers. Communication is the key to successful disaster management, specifically, for post disaster reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts. Successful implementation of strategies not only require all stakeholders to be on board, but effective flow of information that includes sharing of important organizational decisions of organizational mechanisms with general public would also foster confidence and enhance transparency. This effort is to keep decision makers, partners, international community and stakeholders well informed with what's happening in ERRA. We will be keeping you updated with latest news and we look forward to your input on improving the quality of content of this Bulletin.

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Important Information

You can download the copy of this News Bulletin and prescribe for our quarterly News Letter from our website www.erra.gov.pk. You can contribute articles and similar experiences for publication in our News Letter and Annual Review. Articles sent specifically for Annual Review will be peer reviewed by the Editorial Board.

Policy Decisions of the Month

Bringing Elected Public Representatives on Board: Bringing Public Representatives on board is one of the key components to promote ownership of projects, bring harmony to efforts and overcome hindrances with regards to ongoing projects in AJ&K and NWFP. Regular meetings with Public Representatives is now a routine at ERRA, and as per decision of Deputy Chairman ERRA, Lt Gen Sajjad Akram regular meetings of PERRA, SERRA, NESPAK, DGs of ERRA and government representatives for AJ&K and NWFP are taking place at frequent intervals. In these meetings issues regarding slow moving projects, contractors' difficulties and update on projects are dealt with and required decisions given on spot to resolve the issues.



Non-Conventional Construction Technologies adopted for Speedy Reconstruction: In a bid to fast track the pace of reconstruction in earthquake affected areas latest construction technologies have been introduced. Conventional construction techniques take time due to inherent technical reasons and thus do not prove to be an efficient tool against time.

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Adopting Community Driven Reconstruction Approach for Reconstruction of Schools: Progress in Education Sector has been slow, for this, ERRA has adopted innovative strategies. While taking a lead from the success of owner driven reconstruction of Rural Housing, a pilot project of community driven construction of schools has been launched in collaboration with faculty of UET, Peshawar. In first phase of this Programme, 20 Earthquake Resistant Primary Schools will be constructed in the most remote areas with the help of community, using local material. On successful completion of the Phase 1, the project will be expanded.



Old Balakot Recovery Programme Worth Rs 100 Million Underway: To effectively address the much demanded water, sanitation and service delivery issues of the people of Old Balakot

City, a Recovery Programme worth Rs 100 million has been launched. In addition the Old Balakot Peripheral Development Programme is also being finalized whereby no permanent structures are to be made in Old Balakot.



Ensuring Smooth Flow of Funds to SERRA and PERRA: An efficient and effective system for uninterrupted flow of funds to SERRA and PERRA has been evolved. An arrangement has been made whereby funds provided to PERRA and SERRA will not be allowed to fall below Rs. 500 million limits. Both SERRA and PERRA have already been provided Rs 500 million each and the moment their available funds fall below Rs 100 million, ERRA's Finance Wing will automatically allocate another Rs 400 million.

Projects' Designing Outsourced to Meet Reconstruction Timelines: To ensure early award of contracts and completion of tasks as per timelines, ERRA has decided to outsource the Designing of projects to qualified companies. The measure has been taken in light of NESPAK's capacity issues and time taken by NESPAK to complete designing of

Policy Decisions of the Month |

remaining projects despite all the capacity building support provided by ERRA.

Third Party Material Checking Regime in Place: In order to ensure agreed standards of material being purchased, Third Party Material Checking Regime has been put into place. All purchases made in the field will undergo sample checking by a committee headed by Legal Advisor with a rep each from ERRA's Procurement, Finance and Audit Wings. Some reputed firms will also be engaged to ensure transparency and accuracy for the imports and purchases made by ERRAHQ.



Bidding System Gets More Transparent Now: To make the Bidding System more transparent and eliminate the chances of any malpractice, Two Envelopes Bidding System has been adopted. First the technical bids are evaluated and then the financial bids of only those bidders are opened who fulfill the technical requirements.

Decisions to Enhance Effective Performance

Capacity of NESPAK, Provincial and State Line Departments to be Further Enhanced: As the capacity constraint of NESPAK, Provincial and Line Departments was a serious impediment for enhancing the pace of Reconstruction and Rehabilitation works, special attention is being paid to this aspect. NESPAK has been provided extra support for enrollment of additional skilled human resource and procurement of additional equipment. As of today, NESPAK has 302 skilled manpower as compared to 134 last year. Similarly, over Rs 4 Billion have been released to SERRA and PERRA for capacity building of their Line Departments.

Establishing Project Implementation & Coordination Unit (PICU): It was felt by ERRAs administration that a lack of follow up and coordination in the field was having an adverse effect on the efficiency and progress of development works. In order to harness this problem, PICU has been established recently. This Unit has its presence in the field to ensure smooth coordination and effective follow up of decisions taken both at policy and implementation levels.

M3 Ensuring Compliance with the Implementation Timelines: Keeping in view the importance of timely implementation of the decisions made for efficient completion of tasks, a Web Programme Minutes Monitoring Manager (M3) has been launched within ERRAs. M3 will keep track of all strategic, policy or implementation level decisions with regards to level of compliance by the respective Wings and Authorities.



FIMS Brings Transparency and Flexibility to Financial Matters: Financial Information Management System is on line real-time financial management system and now all the financial transactions are being carried out online to give a real time view of financial transactions. The main aim of the system is to ensure transparency in financial matters along with making it more responsive and efficient. All the users have complete visibility of the financial transactions.

Shifting of PERRA HQ to Abbottabad: PERRA HQ has been shifted to Abbottabad, thus, fulfilling the long standing demand of the Earthquake affected people of NWFP. This change has been highly welcomed by the affectees as they will

get their problems resolved at their doorsteps. People consider the shifting of PERRA office to Abbottabad as vital step to speed up PERRAs functioning which would result in early completion of projects.

Commissioning of Dedicated Engineering Wings Underway: In order to settle the long standing issues of ownership of ERRAs projects and increase the pace of reconstruction process Dedicated Engineering Wings have recently been commissioned both in AJ&K and NWFP.



Contractors Facilitation Centre Facilitates, Improves Work Speed: A dedicated Contractors Facilitation Centre has been established in ERRAs HQ. Now the contractors can obtain all the necessary information like number, type, size, map location, time frame and logistic requirements of the planned projects ready for tendering. Tendering documents and PEC rules etc are also available in the centre. All necessary information has also been posted on the ERRAs Website and the Facilitation Centre can also be approached online.

Effective Communication

Media and Knowledge Management Cells Reorganized: Media and Knowledge Management Cell have been reorganized recently. Knowledge Management Cell is revitalized and is passionately working on Collation of information and storage of institutional memory in order to share its knowledge with the coming generations to bring out better prepared disaster response in future. KMC is already engaged in developing linkages with academia, think tanks and research organizations to collaborate and conduct research in disaster management. New and innovative ideas have been implemented according to new KMC campaign which will yield greater results in coming days.

Improved Website Unveils the Shining Face of ERRAs: ERRAs Website is being redesigned and revamped for image building, face lifting along with improving the contents with useful and striking information. It is now expected to attract more visitors and convey ERRAs message more meaningfully and effectively.

Social Impact Report Narrates ERRAs Work On Software Aspects: For the first time, M&E Wing has prepared a detailed Social Impact Report of Reconstruction and Rehabilitation projects undertaken by ERRAs. The social surveyors have worked hard for preparing an objective and reliable impact report based on primary data. While the first report has been launched, the

M&E Wing is already working on the next one.

Targeted Vulnerability Survey Completed: Targeted Vulnerability Survey of all nine districts of the Earthquake affected areas has been completed and the report is ready for launching.

Coffee Book Describes ERRAs Journey Turning Adversity into Opportunity: An eye catching and highly expressive Coffee Book has been prepared covering different phases of the Recovery, Reconstruction and Rehabilitation efforts of ERRAs. It will serve as an effective means of conveying ERRAs message to the target audience. The publication of Coffee Book will be funded by the Donors.

MRDEA Handbook Highlights ERRAs Pioneering Efforts for Disabled Persons: In order to highlight ERRAs effort to be the first in the region to address problems of the persons with disabilities in affected areas, MRDEA has developed two highly useful books. Volume I consists of 500 pages whereas Volume II of 200 pages. The books provide simple procedures and practices for community as well as individual level training for handling the problems faced by the persons with disabilities and to help making them the useful citizens of the society.

Future Focus

- 🏠 Social Protection – Hazardous Land, WDC, SWC
- 🏠 Rain Water Harvesting
- 🏠 Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction
- 🏠 Proactive Communication Strategy
- 🏠 Knowledge Management
- 🏠 Internship/Volunteers Program

