

## **Statement of Solidarity of UCLG - ASPAC with the People of Nepal**

On 25 April 2015, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck Nepal, the epicenter located 80 km northwest of Kathmandu. It affected the country's largest urban area and was also felt in villages in neighboring countries. The earthquake has caused massive damage to historical structures and the number of fatalities, 3 days later, has reached 4,000 and is still increasing.

As rescue and relief operations enter into full-swing, the full extent of the damage caused by this disaster will become clearer. In the aftermath of a catastrophe with this scale, there is an urgent need to rescue people and provide them the basic needs of shelter, food, water, medicine, and sanitation, among others. Rebuilding, however difficult, must already start and rehabilitation plans addressing both short to long term needs have to be drawn, and the resources obtained and effectively managed in their implementation.

As part of the international community, and embracing the people of Nepal as our brothers and sisters, not only as a close member of this network, UCLG - ASPAC expresses its commitment and solidarity to Nepal and will strive to bring the following concrete actions:

- to facilitate the support of UCLG - ASPAC members for immediate rescue and relief
- to support reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts in the long-term,
- to continue building strong local government action in disaster mitigation, prevention, recovery through capacity building, in line with the Sendai Framework of Action.

DONE on the 28th Day of April 2015, in Makati City, Philippines.