Preston High School Geography Department

**HAZARD MANAGEMENT ASSIGNMENT**

**NEPAL EARTHQUAKE 2015**

**Anticipatory:** This phase of ‘*Hazard Management’* is pre-event. Due to the likelihood of a disaster occurring, plans, laws, zoning, building codes, evacuation policies, emergency services etc. are put in place to minimize what is anticipated at an unknown time in the future.

* Deliberate adjustment to minimize impact of natural hazards.
* Considers the residents environmental awareness, perception of the problem, and fiscal restraints.
* Accepting hazard losses.
* Restrictive zoning/abandonment and public use of hazardous areas.
* engineering solutions.
* hazard warning systems and evacuation procedures.

**Reactive:** This phase of ‘*Hazard Management’* is post event. The disaster has occurred, (and may still be occurring, or subsequent problems are occurring ie. Monsoon rains) and plans are put in place for the different phases of the Recovery Model.

**The General Recovery Model.**

**Emergency phase:** clears roads for emergency vehicles, complete search and rescue of victims, emergency shelter and food, temporary hospitals, security against looting, re-unite families who are lost, ensure safety for future aftershocks. Body removal and disposal. (burial customs are important). Accessing remote areas

**Restoration phase:** restores major services (heat, electric, water, communication) and return refugees. Prepare for secondary hazards (cholera due to unsanitary water, exposure from the elements – cold, rain, etc. People could be living in ‘tent cities’ for a long period of time until the rebuild occurs.

**Reconstruction phase:** Rebuild. Prioritize building and infrastructure projects. What are the most important buildings, demolishing unsafe structures still standing, repairing roads and bridges etc.

**Considerations:** These are factors that must be considered when any plan is put in place. They are also known as limiting factors. Each country has a set of **political, economic, environmental, and social / cultural** conditions that must be taken into account when the *General Recovery Model* is put in place.

**Political:** Investigate the stability of the government in Nepal. Often times insurgent groups use a disaster to gain control over a country or region due to deployment of military personnel for the disaster, the lack of security and the chaos of the moment.

**Economic:** The ability of poor third world nations is often limited to deal with disaster relief on their own. They must rely on the goodwill of the global community – the United Nations, and individual countries

**Environmental**: These are factors that deal with terrain and climate that impact rescue efforts, restoration, and rebuilding phases. They may be extreme weather, difficult topography, as well as exposure to diseases brought on by human and animal bodies, human and animal waste, chemical and toxic spills from ruptured pipes and storage containers. Common household products in larger concentrations can also poison local water.

**Social / Cultural**: These factors deal with religion, cultural customs, gender roles, burial customs, dress and modesty issues when it comes to treating patients. For example some religions prohibit women from being attended to by a male doctor without a male family member being present during the examination. Some religions prohibit blood transfusions.

**ASSIGNMENT:**

To

1. Research the state of the disaster as of Tuesday April 28. – death toll, state of Katmandu, state of rural areas of Nepal, refugees and homeless, estimated costs
2. Research and list the **considerations** that you are dealing with in terms of limitations as stated above… political, economic, environmental, social cultural.
3. Develop a plan using the **General Recovery Model** – broken down into Emergency Phase, Restoration Phase, and Reconstruction Phase.

See attached model for your Report.