



Coaching Masons on Habitat Solutions

Development Alternatives (DA), with support from the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, conducted its third-in-series training for production of disaster resistant construction technologies - both new innovations and adaptation of the identified technologies - from 9th to 12th April 2018. This training, conducted in Matli Village of Uttarkashi District, Uttarakhand, focused on 'Plank & Joist and Precast Door & Window Frame Production using Concrete'. It was organised as part of the Technology Intervention for Mountain Ecosystem: Livelihood Enhancement through Action Research & Networking (TIMELEARN) Programme, in partnership with the Himalayan Environment Studies and Conservation Organisation (HESCO), and with support from Santosh Semwal - a local entrepreneur selected and strengthened by DA. Following a detailed assessment of the artisans, their registration, and the evaluation of their skills and experience by the project team, ten suitable candidates were selected for training. Shri Vineet Kumar, Chief Development Officer of Uttarkashi District, inaugurated the programme. The trainees were then imparted practical exposure to the new type of walling technology, thus laying grounds for pursuing further opportunities and higher levels of training and work on demonstration building. They were also awarded with certificates of recognition and appreciation.