



Figure 13. Reinforced concrete columns used for new constructions are of incorrect cross section and do not have adequate reinforcement.



Figure 14. The new constructions in brick and reinforced cement concrete are of very poor quality.

As mentioned before, retrofitting techniques for existing houses were promoted by the government and NGOs in category C villages which did not sustain much damage. Some pilot projects were initiated in these villages and it was hoped that these examples would be replicated by others in the village. However, 18 years after the earthquake, many village inhabitants do not even remember in which houses the pilot retrofitting projects were undertaken. Even the residents of those retrofitted houses are only vaguely aware of the advantages of