



A slice of life in a home that fell prey to the earthquake in Bhaktapur. (Photo: UNICEF/Nepal)

# NEPAL

## Humanitarian Situation Report 5



### SITUATION IN NUMBERS

## Highlights

*UNICEF and partners are now present and delivering results for children in 6 out of 12 severely affected districts. (NEOC/MOHA)*

*UNICEF Nepal Country Office has already received 60% of the required supplies for rapid response. Tents, tarpaulins, hygiene kits, and medical kits and supplies have arrived and distribution has begun in the field.*

*As of 1 May, UNICEF has reached 86,202 people in three districts (Kavrepalanchok, Lalitpur and Kathmandu) with sufficient quantity of water of appropriate quality for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene.*

*Through education and protection clusters, 10 Child-Friendly Spaces have been set-up for the benefit of 1,000 displaced children in Kathmandu Valley.*

**Date: 2 May 2015**

**1.7 million children**  
**out of 4.2 million most affected**  
**population.**  
(NEOC/MOHA 26 April 2015)

**In view of the scale and level of devastation and increasing number of casualties, far more resources will be required for response and recovery.**

**UNICEF Nepal**  
**Earthquake Appeal**  
**\$50.35 million**

## Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

On 25 April, a powerful earthquake with a magnitude of 7.8 struck Nepal with its epicenter 50 miles (80 km) west of the capital Kathmandu in the Lamjung district. The confirmed total number casualties is 6,024 and 13,904 are injured<sup>1</sup> across the country. There are a total of 71 people recovered by the Search and Rescue missions by 13:00 today. The numbers will continue to increase as information becomes available from a large number of affected districts. The number of affected districts is 57 out of 75, 12 of which are declared severely affected<sup>2</sup>.

The most immediate needs are shelter with people struggling to find tents and water and sanitation. The Government of Nepal has released Rs. 415,000,000 (US\$4.14 million) to Village Development Committees (VDCs) and Chief District Officers (CDOs) for food, water and shelter. The Government issued a directive to the international community that relief funds received should be reported to the Nepal Central Bank on a daily basis.

In Nuwakot, UNICEF staff have been deployed to assess four (4) affected VDCs and assist medical teams; hygiene kits and water purification tablets were distributed in the process. In Gorkha, 2000 tarpaulins, 1000 hygiene kits and 300 water purification tablets have been distributed. On the other hand, the DDRC in Kavrepalanchok is mobilizing a helicopter to distribute relief materials due to road inaccessibility. Search and rescue efforts continue.

In Kathmandu Valley, there are signs of slow recovery. Markets and shops are now functional, and electricity from the grid is received by most households, although there are periodic blackouts experienced as usual. Water trucking is now

<sup>1</sup> Update of Ministry of Home Affairs as of 14:00 on 30 April 2015.

<sup>2</sup> As identified by the Nepal Emergency Operations Center/MoHA

available for private households and drinking water supply has resumed, among other utilities and public services, including urban transport.

## Humanitarian leadership and coordination

The Government of Nepal through the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) has declared a state of emergency for a month in the 12 most affected districts and has activated the Humanitarian Clusters. Most severely affected districts are Kathmandu, Sindhupalchowk, Kavrepalanchok, Gorkha, Rasuwa, and Dhading in the Western and Central Region. A total of 4,261,210 people are seriously affected, out of which an estimated 1.7 million (40 per cent) are children below the age of 18 years.

The Clusters have been assessing the latest situation and organizing initial needs assessments in each area, which is now being coordinated through OCHA. Sectoral response plans are being developed and immediate interventions are taking place to meet the most urgent needs. The National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) is operational and coordinating the response with support from UN agencies and humanitarian partners.

UNICEF is co-leading with the Government of Nepal the WASH, Education and Nutrition Clusters and is an active member of the Health Cluster. UNICEF is also now the Cluster Lead for Protection as well as the sub-cluster co-lead for Child Protection.

## Humanitarian Strategy

All humanitarian efforts are being coordinated through the UN Humanitarian Country Team. Both the Clusters and the UN Humanitarian Country Team (UNHCT) are meeting daily to assess the situation and review interventions being undertaken.

## Government priorities

The Government emphasized the importance of coordination with the Chief District Officers in each district for aid delivery. Transparency is also required on data sharing pertaining to donations and relief spending. Shelter, food and water are still the top priorities for aid in the affected districts.

## UNICEF and Partners Response to Date

### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- UNICEF conducted an assessment in Nuwakot district where out of 277,471 houses, 61,000 have been damaged. Over 300 gravity flow water supply systems have been damaged and water is scarce in the district headquarters. Immediate priority needs include water purification tablets and soap for hand washing.
- As of 1 May, UNICEF has reached 86,202 people in three districts (Kavrepalanchok, Lalitpur and Kathmandu) with sufficient quantity of safe drinking water for cooking and personal hygiene. 77,160 people in seven (7) severely affected districts (Gorkha, Dhading, Dolakha, Sindhupalchok, Kavrepalanchok, Lalitpur and Kathmandu) have also been reached with hygiene education and materials through interpersonal communication.
- More than 200 water storage tanks have been provided in 14 camps in Kathmandu Valley for ensuring regularity of water supply throughout the day.
- Bleach and household water treatment materials were provided to support chlorination of 300 water supply networks for about 73,000 people for two weeks in Lalitpur district.
- More than 150,000 people will benefit from the installation of 5,000 temporary toilets in affected areas.
- Additionally, 77,160 people in seven (7) severely affected districts (Gorkha, Dhading, Dolakha, Sindhupalchok, Kavrepalanchok, Lalitpur and Kathmandu) have also been reached with hygiene education and materials through interpersonal communication.
- UNICEF has provided 14 water storage tanks in eight (8) camps (Halchok, Tudikhel, Balambu, Narayanchour, Sinamangal, St Xavier, Lalitpur and Kathmandu).
- UNICEF received proposals from 15 partners and is currently developing emergency PCAs/SSFAs for implementation of emergency WASH activities. Supply orders have been placed and UNICEF is reviewing additional requirements.

## Nutrition

- **Breast Feeding:** Statement on the Distribution of Infant Formula and Breast milk Substitutes in Emergencies has been endorsed by the Government of Nepal and the Nutrition Cluster members. Statement includes information on whom to report to on unsolicited donations of breast milk substitutes. Statement is being disseminated to all district authorities, national and international emergency response partners and embassies.
- **Complementary Feeding:** Over 450,000 boxes of multiple micronutrient powders to improve quality of complementary foods for affected children 6-23 months old available and being channeled to 12 severely affected districts.
- **Therapeutic Feeding:** 5,000 cartons of Ready-to-use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) provided by UNICEF are being channeled to the 12 most critically affected districts for the management of severe acute malnutrition (children 6-59 months old).
- **Vitamin A Supplementation:** 2 million vitamin A capsules are on the way for a supplementation round (children 6-59 months old) by end May in 21 affected districts.
- **Deworming:** 2 million doses of deworming medication are on the way for a deworming round (children 12-59 months old) by end May in 21 affected districts (in combination with vitamin A supplementation round).
- **Blanket Supplementary Feeding:** 260 MT of Plumpy'doz have been procured to cover the needs of children 6-23 months old and mothers in 12 severely affected districts.
- **High Energy Biscuits:** 18 MT of high energy biscuits have been procured and are expected shortly.
- A dedicated nutrition cluster coordinator and information management officer have been identified and will be in Kathmandu on 5 May 2015.

## Health

- Based on WHO assessments in ten (10) districts, four (4) hospitals in Ramechhap, Nuwakot, Sindupalchowk, and Rasuwa are identified as sites requiring priority actions because they have been severely damaged. In Gorkha, Lalitpur, Dhading, Makwanpur and Lalitpur, five (5) hospitals require urgent support also as a result of severe infrastructure deteriorations.
- As of 1 May, 80 medical teams have been registered with MoHP, while 14 have been deployed to affected areas. More teams will be deployed on the basis of needs.
- Medical needs have been rapidly shifting from acute phase requiring emergency medical care such as trauma and injuries, to post-acute phase characterized as post-traumatic stress disorder and high risk of infections.
- On 1 May, air cargo containing 70 health kits, 3800 blankets, 90 survival kits, three (3) tents, 500 sodium lactate have arrived and are being transported to focus districts.
- Measles vaccination campaigns are planned in 35 affected districts.

## Child Protection

- Eight (8) Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS) are now operational in Tudikhel camp in Kathmandu, Khokana in Lalitpur and Bhaktapur (in total, ten (10) to date).
- First Psychosocial Aid (FPA) was provided to 27 children and five (5) women in Tudikhel camp (Kopila).
- Meeting conducted with over 15 women's local organizations to provide them a forum to highlight their specific concerns in the aftermath of the earthquake.
- 240 sanitary pads were distributed in Kavre following urgent request from women's networks.
- Plan International has distributed 300 tarpaulins and 100 blankets in Kirtipur Panga area (Itagul, Lachi, Guth).

## Education

- The Education and Protection clusters have established ten (10) CFS in camp sites in Kathmandu, Khokana, and Bhaktapur serving over **1,000 children affected by the earthquake**. On 2 May, an additional five (5) CFS are expected to open, bringing the total to 15. Art activities, games, sports, and psychosocial support and key life-saving messages relating to WASH, Nutrition, Health, and Child Protection are being provided.
- Supplies to set up additional child-friendly spaces beyond the valley are now in transit. Work is underway by the Department of Education to provide guidance to School Management Committees on the initial assessments of schools structures to ensure that those undamaged by the quake can reopen on schedule.
- In Kathmandu Valley, 12 school and ECD kits, nine (9) tarpaulins and 30 child kits have been distributed in Kathmandu and Lalitpur camps.
- UNICEF is translating into Nepali key ECD messages on psychosocial support for children during disasters that can be integrated into C4D messages.
- UNICEF also continues to mobilize volunteers to help in the camps.

## Supply and Logistics

- As of 1 May, pre-positioned emergency stocks of tents, tarpaulins, hygiene kits, medical kits, IEC materials, plastic buckets, school-in-a-box and ECD kits worth \$17,620.88 have been distributed to partners, total value of supplies distributed since 26 April is **\$194,825.63**.

## HR Support

- A total of 47 Surge Programme Staff is required for ICT, Supply and Logistics, HR, Administration, Operations, WASH, Education, Child Protection, Health and C4D. Another 12 still need to be identified.

## Communication for Development (C4D)

- Agreement made with Radio Nepal to broadcast radio programmes four (4) times during the day (with repeat broadcast during available slots). Programmes will be aired as of 2 May. The first slot (25 min) in the morning would cover key messages and updates on the response situation. The second (55min) would be on psychosocial support for women and children, the third on psychosocial support (focusing on entertainment) for children (20 min) and fourth (45 min) on psychosocial support for the family (including men).
- Compendium of key messages developed and disseminated through field teams to ensure standardization of message delivery by frontline mobilizers.
- Key messages and communication material for a measles campaign were developed.
- Broadcast of key messages through national and 83 community radio stations, and of earthquake response messages on seven national televisions continues.
- Publication of appeal and details of responses by MoHP through nine leading daily newspapers (Naya Patrika, Gorkhapatra, Kantipur, Annapurna Post, Rajdhani, The Himalayan Times, Republica, Kathmandu Post and Nagarik) as demonstration of accountability to affected populations.
- Key Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) and cholera messages were also developed.

## Media

- Senior ROSA and NCO staff accompanied by some media visited the affected districts of Dhading, west of Kathmandu. The team also took part in the distribution of relief supplies at the district headquarters as well as in Salyantar village. Another trip scheduled to Kavre accompanying the UNICEF National Ambassador, had to be suspended due to sensitivities regarding the distribution of relief items.
- NCO staff have been dealing with media enquiries and interviews. In the past 24 hours interviews were given to CBC-TV National News Media; Asahi Shimbun (Japan); BBC Nepali Service News; TV (Brazil), CCTV News(China); Perfil newspaper (Argentina); NZ INTV (live as well as recorded); BPM TV and Radio 1 (both Dutch)
- Newsnote on "A week on into the Earthquake" drafted and shared with HQ. Steps taken to bring on board more local photographers and writers to collect stories/images from earthquake-affected districts.
- Stories and images with disability focus were collected in schools where UNICEF had provided support with earthquake preparedness drill. Video testimonials of staff about their experiences one week into the earthquake also collected.

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