UNICEF Nepal Sitrep #4 – 30 April to 01 May 2015

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) east of the capital Kathmandu (Lamjung). The confirmed total number of casualties is 5,582 and 11,175 are injured 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.

The most immediate needs are shelter with people struggling to find tents and plastic sheeting to protect themselves from the sun and rain. Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) is also a dire need given the absence of clean water source and latrines. Further, to help protect children and facilitate their psychosocial recovery from the traumatizing experience of the earthquake, and to help reduce their vulnerability in camp settings, services such as Child-Friendly Spaces are needed.

1.7 million children out of 4.2 million most affected population
(Source: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
April 2015 (90-day appeal)
$50.35 million

UNICEF and partners are intending to reach approximately 1.7 million children who represent 40 percent of the 4.2 million affected population in 21 of the most affected districts of Nepal.
(Source:NEOC/MOHA)

UNICEF Nepal Country Office has already received 60% of the required supplies for rapid response. Tents, tarpaulins, hygiene kits, school materials have already been distributed in Kathmandu and other affected districts. Child Friendly Spaces have been established in temporary camps, benefiting around 600 children age 2-12.

As of 30 April 2015, UNICEF provided access to safe water to 11,552 people in Kavrepalanchok and Kathmandu districts, and reached 75,378 people with hygiene education and hygiene kit through interpersonal communication in seven of the most affected districts.

Date: 30 April – 01 May 2015

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

1 Update of Ministry of Home Affairs as of 14:00 on 30 April 2015.
2 As identified by the Nepal Emergency Operations Center/MoHA
In Dhading, hygiene kits and water purification tablets along with food items have reached the affected population through helicopter drop, and repair of damaged water supply was started. The District Disaster Relief Committee (DDRC) has established five regional distribution points for supplies and established a 4-member committee for support and approval to international agencies distributing in the area. In Chitwan, the DDRC formed 9 distribution and monitoring committees for the distribution of tarpaulins, mosquito nets, plastic buckets and water purification tablets.

In Kathmandu Valley, there are signs of slow recovery. Markets and shops are now functional, and electricity from the grid are received by most households, although there are periodic blackouts experienced as usual. Water trucking is now 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 has declared a state of emergency in the 57 affected districts and has activated the Humanitarian Clusters. 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 in 21 most affected districts. This includes severely affected districts such as Kathmandu, Sindhupalchowk, Kavre, Gorkha, Rasuwa, and Dhading in the Western and Central Region.

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 has prioritized the provision of temporary shelter for those who are displaced and staying in the 16 temporary camps in the valley and in other severely affected districts. An assessment of the temporary camps by 30 April 2015 demonstrated that 3 out of 16 are already closed and there are a total of 23,739 people left in the camps and Balambu and HallCho village development committees (VDCs).

**UNICEF and Partners Response to Date**

**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)**

- As of 30 April 2015, UNICEF provided access to safe water to 11,552 people in Kabhrepalanchok and Kathmandu districts, and reached 75,378 people with hygiene education and hygiene kit through interpersonal communication in seven of the most affected districts.
- UNICEF granted media briefing on WASH to Aamulehti – second largest daily paper in Finland - and YLE TV. An update on the situation was provided to UNICEF Finland and preparedness for cholera response shared.
- Transportation of $488,000 loaned WASH items from UNICEF Pakistan to Nepal for the response being assessed for quick delivery. Over US$1 million WASH supplies from UNICEF India being finalized shipment.
- An online call for partnerships for the response was launched on 29 April, and 14 detailed concept notes have been received for SSFAs and PCAs. Finalization by early next week.
- Subnational WASH cluster coordination is reported to be functioning on Kavrepalanchok and Sindhupalchowk but not fully in Dolkha district.
- National level Cluster Coordinator for WASH identified. He is expected to arrive early next week.
Nutrition

- Partners are assessing the nutrition capacity gaps in the affected districts.
- Developed a joint statement on Infant Feeding in Emergencies (IFE)
- 100% dedicated nutrition cluster coordinator will be in country including information management officer for nutrition cluster coordination and information management in a week.
- Identified, oriented and assigned agencies/human resources for Rapid Nutrition Assessment (RNA) in 21 the most affected and critically affected districts such as Suahaara (10), ACF (1), UMN (1), PSI with WFP (1), NFSS with UNICEF (3).
- Identification and selection of partners for PCA are ongoing.

Health

- WHO is conducting an assessment to estimate the number of pregnant women, infants and under-five in affected districts.
- Reproductive Health (RH) sub cluster is going to establish a simpler guideline extracting from the national guidelines, which will be provided to foreign medical teams to ensure their compliance of the national guidelines.
- RH sub-cluster is going to involve INGOs/NGOs to provide better care and shelter for postnatal mothers.
- UNICEF conducted rapid initial observation at Tundhikel and Kirtipur temporary camps in Kathmandu Valley on 29 April.
- 10 tents have arrived at the Kathmandu airport and 2 have been transported to Dhading.
- Health cluster coordinator is in Nepal already.

Child Protection

- Four Child Friendly Space became operational in Kathmandu, Lalitpur, and Bhaktapur in (UNICEF and WVI)
- Psychosocial message was aired through 30 FM radio stations (UNICEF).
- Psychosocial first aid was provided to 22 children and 23 adults in a small group in Tudhikel camp by UNICEF/Kopila team
- 20 national disaster response team was deployed (NDRT) and they were oriented for tracing and reunification of children.
- Assessment is undertaken on unaccompanied and separated children in 16 camps in Kathmandu (led by Central Child Welfare Board and UNICEF. The team comprised of Next Generation Nepal, the Umbrella Foundation, Forget Me Not, and the Himalayan Innovative Society).
- Baby packs for children (450 in in Gorkha, 450 in Sindhupalchok, and 300 in Kathmandu) distributed yesterday (Save the Children). 390 NFI were distributed in Kathmandu (CARE).
- Cluster members are distributing food for lactating mother in Khokana, Lalitpur starting from today and for the coming week.

Education

- Four child friendly spaces have already been established in Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur and are serving over 400 children (jointly with child protection).
- Over 70 volunteer facilitators are being oriented today on key lifesaving messages for affected children, including earthquake information and information on psychosocial support.
- Assessment damage to educational infrastructure in the 12 worst affected districts is continued by the Education Cluster and the Ministry of Education
- UNICEF has mobilized around 11 volunteers for the temporary camp in Tundikel, where an estimated 200 children ages 2-12 are participating in recreational activities and are receiving psychosocial support in the child friendly space.
- UNICEF has distributed 5 school and 5 ECD kits to 6 NGO partners in Kathmandu and Lalitpur. In addition, 100 school kits were sent to Gorkha.
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- UNICEF Nepal Education has already requested Supply Division for 8,000 school kits, 8,000 ECD kits and 8,000 recreation kits. The Office is also mobilizing local suppliers to provide additional supplies, including supplies from Bangladesh.

Supply and Logistics
- As of 30 April, pre-positioned emergency stocks of tents, tarpaulins, hygiene kits, IEC materials, plastic buckets, school-in-a-box and ECD kits worth $98,196.68 have been distributed to partners, total worth of supplies distributed since 26 April is $177,925.75.

HR Support
- A total of 75 surge staff are required to support the response. This includes 47 Surge Programme Staff for ICT, Supply and Logistics, HR, Administration, Operations, WASH, Education, Child Protection, Health and C4D, as well as cluster surge required
- UNICEF's Emergency Field Coordinator arrived in Kathmandu on 30 April.

Communication for Development
- Airing of key messages on hygiene, sanitation and psychosocial support from 70 FM stations and Radio Nepal.
- Publication of news appeal in Naya Patrika, Gorkhapatra, Kantipur, Annapurna Post, Rajdhani, the Himalayan Times and Republica
- Airing of key messages in Nepal TV and Kantipur

Media
- Interviews in the past 24 hours include: Telecinco, 20 Minutos (Spain), Caracol, RCN, La Revista Semana (Colombia), China Central TV (China), BFM TV, RMC, MYTF1News (France), La Presse, SCR, RDI (Canada), Digital Governance (UK), NOs, TV1, BNR (Netherlands, Aamulehti, YLE TV (Finland), Aachner Zeitung (Germany)
- Media visits arranged to various sites in Kathmandu Valley including a “Safe Space” set up in Tundikhel and Bhaktapur to witness distribution of hygiene kits.
- Press release prepared on supply and Q&A on key issues and sensitive topics being finalized. Media package including case studies, photos and videos from Kavre and Kathmandu sent.
- Prepositioned visibility items from ROSA mobilized to highlight UNICEF branding.

Resource Mobilization
UNICEF is appealing for USD50.3 million as part of the Inter-agency Flash Appeal to support the immediate humanitarian needs of children and women identified to date over a 90-day period. As access to remote areas opens and assessment results are gathered, additional support will be required to respond. UNICEF is grateful to donors for their support to date.

UNICEF Spokespersons

Who to contact for further information:

Jean-Jacques Simon  
Regional advisor  
Communications, Nepal  
Telephone: +977 9801030076  
Email: jjsimon@unicef.org

Rupa Joshi  
Communication Manager, Nepal  
Telephone: 977-1552-3200 x1179  
E-mail: rjoshi@unicef.org