



# NEPAL

## Humanitarian Situation Report 6



### SITUATION IN NUMBERS

## Highlights

*UNICEF and partners are now present and delivering results for children in all 12 severely affected districts (Source:NEOC/MOHA)*

*As of 4 May 2015, UNICEF together with partners reached 124,482 people with water supply, 23,693 people with sanitation services and 78,166 people with hygiene education and materials in 10 affected districts.*

*Nepal has suspended internal adoption of children. The Education and Protection clusters have set up 22 Child-Friendly Spaces for displaced communities in Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur serving over 2,200 earthquake affected children.*

**Date: 5 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**  
**April 2015**  
**\$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) east of the capital Kathmandu (Lamjung). The confirmed total number casualties is 7,276 and 14,362 are injured<sup>1</sup> across the country. 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. There are still issues to be resolved concerning the 'one-door policy' of aid channeling through the CDOs. Tensions are high in the severely affected districts, with reported incidents of violence including stoning of government officials in charge of relief distribution.

In Dolakha, UNICEF distributed 20,000 aquatabs to the Water Department and 96 tarpaulins to four villages through the Nepal Army, benefiting at least 2,700 individuals. Hygiene kits, aquatabs, soaps and buckets have been distributed in Ramechhap, while children's clothing has been distributed in Nuwakot. Kavrepalanchok also received 1,900 tarpaulins, 135 cartons of aquatabs and 124 hygiene kits. Gorkha district received the first response, benefiting from the prepositioned stocks of 2,000 tarpaulins, 3,000 hygiene kits, 2,000 plastic buckets and 2,000 plastic mugs.

<sup>1</sup> Update of Ministry of Home Affairs as of 11:00 on 4 May 2015.

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

Access is still a challenge to humanitarian response, with roads blocked by debris and affected by landslides. While supply is being delivered to the districts, the distribution to the targeted beneficiaries is reported to be inadequate.

## 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. Most severely affected districts are Kathmandu, Sindhupalchowk, Kavre, 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 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.

UNICEF submitted CERF proposals for WASH (US\$3.5 million) and Protection (US\$500,000).

## 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 the interventions being undertaken. An inter-cluster meeting is held on daily basis for better coordination. Gender focal persons are assigned in each cluster to ensure gender-sensitive response.

## 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)

- As of 4 May 2015, UNICEF together with partners reached 124,482 people with water supply, 23,693 people with sanitation services and 78,166 people with hygiene education and materials in 10 affected districts. 9,090 households in 8 severely affected districts have been provided with water storage containers.
- US\$307,967 water supplies benefiting 712,250 people, US\$1,352,854 hygiene promotion supplies benefiting 503,800 people and US\$694,400 sanitation supplies benefiting 235,000 people have been ordered and expected to arrive in the coming days.

### Nutrition

- Dedicated Nutrition Cluster Coordinator and Information Management Officer deployed to Nepal. District Support Lead agency is coordinating response in 12 severely affected districts.
- In addition to the existing partner capacity, UNICEF is training an additional 30 staff to strengthen capacity of response.
- **Breast Feeding:** Statement on the Distribution of Infant Formula and Breastmilk Substitutes endorsed by GON and the Nutrition Cluster members. Statement includes information on whom to report to unsolicited donations of BMS and milk powder. Statement disseminated to district authorities, national and international partners and embassies.
- **Complementary feeding:** Over 450,000 boxes (30 sachets each) of multiple micronutrient powders to improve quality of complementary foods for affected children 6-23 months old being channelled to **12 severely** affected districts.
- **Therapeutic feeding:** 5,000 cartons of RUTF being channelled to 12 most severely affected districts for the management of severe acute malnutrition (children 6-59 months old).
- **Vitamin A supplementation:** 2 million vitamin A capsules on their way for a supplementation round (children 6-59 months old) by end May in 21 affected districts.

- **Deworming:** 2 million deworming tablets on their way for a deworming round (children 12-59 months old) by end May in 21 affected districts (+vitamin A supplementation round).
- **Blanket supplementary feeding:** 260 MT of Plumpy'doz on their way to Nepal be delivered to children 6-23 months old and mothers in 12 severely affected districts.
- **High Energy Biscuits:** 18 metric tons of high energy biscuits on their way to Nepal (ACF).
- **Iodized salt:** 19 MT of iodized salt included in the emergency food basket distributed to 11 severely affected districts (Food security cluster).

## Health

- Measles and Rubella vaccination campaign was implemented in Kathmandu on 3 and 4 May. Hundreds of children were vaccinated for the last two days.
- Medical supplies, tents, tarpaulin, and blankets were transported to six affected districts by 7 trucks on 3 May. It was confirmed that all these materials have arrived at respective DHOs. Six emergency health kits will cover the needs of 180,000 people in affected districts for one month.

## Child Protection

- Government of Nepal has temporarily suspended international adoption of children. UNICEF played a key role in making the decision.
- Reported cases of unaccompanied and separated children are followed up by the Central Child Welfare Board (CCWB) and the Nepal Police has set up a Command Post for issues concerning women, children and security.
- 3600 children's clothes were distributed in Gorkha and additional 363 in Nuwakot and 350 in Rasuwa.
- A total of 16 Child Friendly Spaces became operational to date in the temporary camps in Kathmandu.
- A daily radio programme was launched by UNICEF in partnership with Radio Nepal called 'Bhandai-Sundai' (Talking – Listening) to address the current earthquake situation and concerns for women and children.

## Education

- The Education and Protection clusters have set up 22 Child Friendly Spaces for displaced communities in Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur serving over 2,200 earthquake affected children.
- Work is underway by the Department of Education to provide guidance to School Management Committees on the initial school buildings structural assessment phase to ensure schools undamaged by the quake are able to reopen on schedule.
- UNICEF is preparing a national guidelines on use of schools as shelter during emergencies.
- Movement of affected populations away from the valley will require advocacy on the part of the Cluster to ensure that displaced children are accepted and integrated into host community schools.

## Supply and Logistics

- As of 4 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 worth of supplies distributed since 26 April is **\$347,698.26**
- ECHO funded supplies (121 Metric tons) arrived Kathmandu on 4 May.

## HR Support

- A total of 88 additional staff is required for ICT, Supply and Logistics, HR, Administration, Operations, WASH, Education, Child Protection, Health and C4D, 23 are already in the country.

## Communication for Development (C4D)

- Radio Nepal carrying out radio programmes 4 times during the day (with repeat broadcast during available slots). The first slot (25 min) in the morning is covering key messages and updates on the response situation. The second (55min) is 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). The programme is getting very good response and initial feedback from callers suggests that they are finding the show interesting and engaging.
- Assessment of the situation of community radio stations has been initiated. The report will be available soon. On this basis, support for rehabilitation will be provided.
- Development of a range of communication materials on multi-sectoral issues is on track. 5 materials on WASH and Protection issues finalized. Entire set expected to be ready by end of this week.

- Airing of key messages through national and close to 100 community radio stations continues.
- Publication of the daily progress report of ministry of health and population through Gorkha Patra as an accountability to affected populations measure was done.
- Miking in different camp settings and affected areas of Kathmandu and Lalitpur are ongoing.
- Airing of earthquake response messages from Nepal television was carried out.

## Media

- NCO staff have been dealing with media enquiries and interviews. Over the weekend interviews were given to: CNN-International, CNN-Latin America, Al-Jazeera TV-Arabic, AFP-TV, AFP-Print, AFP-Photo, AP-TV, AP-Print, AP-Photo, NHK-TV, Grazia magazine (UK); Scottish national newspaper; Blog for 20 Minutos (Spain); Reuters interview with Karin; Radio 2 (Dutch); Sagarmatha TV; Radio Nepal News + *Bhandai Sundai* Programme (Nepal); Asahi Simbum (Japan); Irish Radio News; Al-Jazeera Plus; Globe and Mail (Canada); Malay Mail (Malaysia), ABC Radio (Australia), Italian Radio, TV-5 Philippines,
- **Media missions** covered Child-Friendly Spaces in Kathmandu; Patients in Orthopaedic Hospital under tents provided by UNICEF as well as Measles campaign. **Stories and images** collected focussing on UNICEF-supported radio programmes *Bhandai Sundai* (Saying-Listening) and measles campaign. **Photo package** from earthquake ravaged Khokana village in Lalitpur; **Press Note** produced on measles and assisted in fine-tuning press note of ECHO supported UNICEF cargo coming to Kathmandu.
- Additional story writer and videographer brought on board to strengthen Communication team. Talks on also hiring photo/videographer stationed in Nepal who also owns an UAV (drone).

## UNICEF

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