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 7,652 and 16,392 are injured 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.

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. A total of Rs 185 million (US$1.8 million) collected in the Prime Minister’s Relief Fund, which is used for rescue, relief, rehabilitation of victims and restoration of physical infrastructure. Reconstruction and rehabilitation planning is initiated at the National Planning commission, with the Finance Minister requesting US$ 2 – 10 billion international assistance to support reconstruction work.

The Department of Education has reported that 14,541 classrooms have been fully destroyed, and 9,182 have been damaged. Based on a child-classroom ratio of 40 children to 1 classroom, this means that approximately 948,920 children will not have access to education unless the government and partners are able to provide alternative learning solutions.

UNICEF Nepal Earthquake Appeal
April 2015
$50.35 million

Date: 06 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 and partners are now present and delivering results for children in all 12 severely affected districts (Source:NEOC/MOHA)

As of 06 May 2015, UNICEF together with partners reached 251,647 people with water supply, sanitation facilities and hygiene education.

The Education and Protection clusters have now established 28 Child Friendly Spaces for displaced communities in Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur serving over 2,800 earthquake affected children. Art activities, games, sports, and psychosocial support and key lifesaving messages relating to WASH, Nutrition, Health, and Child Protection are being provided.

Through the Interagency Flash Appeal, UNICEF together with the humanitarian country team is still facing a 96% gap in funding requirements to effectively respond to the earthquake-affected population in Nepal.

1 Update of Ministry of Home Affairs as of 11:00 on 6 May 2015.
2 As identified by the Nepal Emergency Operations Center/MoHA
spaces, or where possible repair damage. However, these numbers are still provisional, as some districts have not fully reported and in many instances private schools are not included in the reporting. The government has announced that schools will re-open on 15 May (Nepali month-Jyeshta 1).

Gang rape cases are being reported. Reporting of GBV cases and survivors accessing services is on ad hoc basis. Information is not reaching those who need it and survivors traditionally report within communities rather than seeking services.

Temporary field hospitals have been established in Bhaktapur, Chhauni, Lagankhel, Sinamangal and Singhadurbar area in the Kathmandu valley and in Sindhupalchowk, Kavre, Gorkha, Nuwakot and Rasuwa districts with the support of different medical teams and countries according to the Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP) official report.

UNICEF was able to reach 1,945 families in Gorkha district through the distribution of hygiene kits in 4 Village Development Committees (VDCs). In Ramechhap, medicines and tents were supplied to the District Health Office. WASH supplies are ready to be dispatched to 10 VDCs in Sindhu but are pending for approval from the District Disaster Relief Committee (DDRC).

Access to roads and road networks continue to be a challenge and that there is still an important gap in the amount of distributed vis-à-vis the actual needs of the affected population in the severely affected districts. Lack of data and the insecurity that surrounds assessments remain to be a bottleneck in reaching out to the most vulnerable populations, especially women and children.

**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 Office of Prime Minister and Council of Ministers on 05 May have decided to deploy a relief team in each severely affected district to expedite the distribution of relief materials and to conduct the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA). Apart from the distribution of relief materials, the relief team is expected to prepare an Integrated Resettlement Plan; to inspect infrastructural damage and to prepare reconstruction work plan based on the PDNA. The team will be deployed for one month.

**Humanitarian Strategy**

All humanitarian efforts are being coordinated through the UN Humanitarian Country Team (HCT). The HCT meets daily while the intercluster meetings are reduced to three times a week, to assess the situation and review the interventions being undertaken. The HCT already flagged the possible impacts of the forthcoming monsoon (estimated to being by 15 June onwards) and that it should be considered in response plans, as the humanitarian situation may worsen once the monsoon starts.

**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. The Government along with the Education Cluster will prioritize districts for assistance, e.g. distribution of supplies, rebuilding and repair of schools, etc.

**UNICEF and Partners Response to Date**

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

- UNICEF has so far responded to WASH needs of 251,647 people (water supply 138,232 people, sanitation 23,736, and hygiene education 89,689 people) in 10 districts (Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Bhaktapur, Sindhupalchowk, Dhading, Kavre, Nuwakot, Dolakha, Ramechhap). In Kathmandu district, UNICEF distributed 200 hygiene kits to 200 families and buckets to 5,000 households out of 14,302 households affected, while in Dhading and Kavre

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3 Derived from Education Cluster Coordination updates 06 May 2015.
districts, UNICEF reached 610 and 124 households out of 27,227 combined affected households for both districts with hygiene kits and water purification tablets respectively. UNICEF was able to reach 1,945 families in Gorkha district through the distribution of hygiene kits in 4 severely affected Village Development Committees (VDCs).

- UNICEF is in the process of finalizing SSFA/PCAs with Plan, Oxfam and NRCS to distribute hygiene kits alongside hygiene education to about 70,000 households in 7 priority districts (Bhaktapur, Dhading, Lalitpur, Sindhupalchowk, Kavre, Gorkha and Dolakha) in the next 10 days.
- On 4 May UNICEF conducted interviews with New York Times and Communication Department of Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland on UNICEF WASH response to people in the affected communities.

Nutrition

- **Capacity scale up.** UNICEF completed training of additional 30 staff to strengthen district capacity of response. 5 PCAs being signed with 5 local NGOs to support response scale up in 6 districts.
- **Breast Feeding:** Statement on Distribution of Breastmilk Substitutes endorsed by GON and Nutrition Cluster members. Statement includes information on whom to report to unsolicited donations of BMS and milk powder. Wide dissemination nationally and internationally.
- **Complementary feeding:** 147,829 sachets of multiple micronutrient powders to improve quality of complementary foods for affected children 6-23 months old delivered to 12 severely affected districts.
- **Therapeutic feeding:** 3,020 cartons of ready to use therapeutic foods (RUTF) delivered to 12 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.
- **Iodized salt:** 19 MT of iodized salt included in the emergency food basket distributed to 11 severely affected districts (Food security cluster).
- **Anthropometric material:** 72 height boards, 144 weight scales, and 16,600 MUAC tapes delivered to district support lead agencies in 12 severely affected districts.
- **EU and World Bank:** Discussions with EU finalized on 4.5 M top-up funding for five most severely affected districts. Discussions with WB ongoing on support to UNICEF for the July-December Nutrition response.

Health

- **Emergency health kits, surgical instruments, first aid kits, tents, and blankets were transported to Dhulikhel and Rasuwa districts on 6th May. One emergency health kit can serves the needs of 30,000 people in affected districts for one month.**
- **25 diarrhoea disease sets have arrived in the KTM airport and will be transported to affected districts as soon as transport is arranged.**
- **UNICEF has established partnership with Midwifery Society of Nepal (MIDSON) to provide life-saving maternal, newborn health services in 117 health facilities in earthquake-affected districts. UNICEF provides medicines, tents, and other supplies, while MIDSON will provide staffing.**
- **UNICEF has established partnership with Life Line Nepal to maintain and repair cold chain in affected districts.**
- **Measles and Rubella vaccination campaigns immunized 2428 children between 6-59 months (Kathmandu: 1412; Lalitpur 604; Bhaktapur: 412).**

Child Protection

- **District Protection Clusters became operational and met regularly in affected districts.**
- **22 children were rescued from damaged children’s home in Kokhana, Lalitpur, by Central Child Welfare Board. These children have been cared in a temporary residential care facilities and psychosocial support was provided to them.**
6 additional Child Friendly Space became operational in collaboration with the Education cluster during the reporting period. (In total 28 to date). 7 Women Friendly spaces were set up on Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, Kavre, Nuwakot, Kavre and Dhading.

Women’s groups and particularly GBV watch groups were mobilised to prevent and respond to GBV cases in 12 districts with support from UNICEF.

Key messages on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, Unaccompanied and Separated Children, and Trafficking were broadcasted through Radio Nepal (nationwide coverage) on regular basis with support from UNICEF.

With UNICEF technical assistance, 300 police officials have been oriented on children and women’s protection issues. These officials will be deployed to the affected districts as of 7th May.

**Education**

- The Education and Protection clusters have now established 28 Child Friendly Spaces for displaced communities in Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur serving over 2,800 earthquake affected children. Art activities, games, sports, and psychosocial support and key lifesaving messages relating to WASH, Nutrition, Health, and Child Protection are being provided.

- UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Education (MOE)/ Department of Education (DOE) and the Education Cluster in developing a Back to School Strategy

- Working with partners, UNICEF is preparing a model child-friendly space/temporary learning space based on government approved specifications. This will be used as a standard for setting up other temporary learning spaces in affected areas.

- UNICEF continues to direct volunteers to assist partner NGOs in the camps in Kathmandu and Lalitpur districts. UNICEF Education is directly responsible for the emergency education response in Kathmandu and Lalitpur as agreed with the Education Cluster while UNICEF supplies will be distributed to partners to cover all affected districts.

**Supply and Logistics**

- As of 6 May, tents, tarpaulins, hygiene kits, medical kits, IEC materials, plastic buckets, school-in-a-box and ECD kits have been distributed to partners, total worth of supplies distributed since 26 April is ₿531,496.78

**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 programme for women and children continues with Radio Nepal, carrying out radio programmes 4 times a 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).

- UNICEF national ambassador Ms. Ani Choying Dorlma appeared in the show to provide the psychosocial support to children and adolescents and child trafficking issue was also covered in the programme.

- Development of a range of communication materials on multi-sectoral issues is on track. Additional two proto-type on menstrual hygiene and child trafficking developed and shared with larger partners for comments and feedback. Entire set expected to be ready by end of this week.

- Airing of key messages through national and close to 111 community and private radio stations continues. 5 additional new radio PSA developed and finalized; airing of earthquake response messages through Nepal TV ongoing.

**Media**

- NCO and ROSA staff have been dealing with media enquiries and taking interviews too. On 5th and 6th May interviews were given to Radio-Canada, Radio Centre-ville & CPAM Radio-Union (Canada); Kyodo News
Media missions covered Orthopaedic hospitals that are housing their patients under three large hospital tents provided by UNICEF; as well as Measles campaign in the maternity hospital and in a village in Lalitpur; story on injured pregnant women in Teaching Hospital in Kathmandu. Stories and images collected focusing on the rescue of children living in Children’s Home damaged by the earthquake; Write and photographer sent to Nuwakot district for story collection on situation of children.

- Additional local videographer and international photographer being brought on board to cover stories.
- First draft of Post-Earthquake Advocacy Strategy prepared and shared with relevant NCO colleagues.

### UNICEF Spokespersons

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