



An earthquake affected family in Kerauja.



World Food Programme

Nepal: Earthquake

Highlights

- Another earthquake, measuring 7.3, struck Nepal on 12 May causing further loss of life and damage to many already weakened structures. The epicentre of the new quake was approximately 80km from the Kathmandu, near the Everest base camp in Namche Bazaar, Dolakha district. Multiple strong aftershocks were felt during the following hours fraying nerves and creating new challenges. Within two hours of the initial shock, WFP carried out a rapid aerial assessment mission, overflying the newly-affected areas to establish the extent of the damage. Reports from the ground indicate that there has been further damage in Dolakha.
- At the request of the Humanitarian Coordinator and as part of the common services platform, WFP will engage the services of mountain climbers, local porters and possibly pack animals to assist in delivering food to remote villages. This would be under the platform of WFP's Special Operation for Logistics Augmentation. The UN Humanitarian Air Services operation is in the process of being expanded to include five MI8 helicopter and three smaller AS350 helicopters.
- Urgent funding is required in order for WFP to sustain the necessary level of emergency response, both in the provision of food assistance and through the two humanitarian common services platforms, which WFP leads. The common support services platform represents a lifeline for humanitarian actors to access those most affected in the most remote areas.
- The significant access challenges due to the extreme terrain and inclement weather, has created a race against the clock to deliver relief assistance to earthquake-affected areas. The already difficult access will become even more challenging once the monsoon season begins. Complicating the natural disaster, restrictions on landing slots and loading ramps continue to hamper the arrival and rapid dispatch of humanitarian assistance.
- As of 14 May, with support from the local government and partners, WFP has distributed food to nearly 1.2 million beneficiaries living in six of the most heavily affected districts: Gorkha, Dhading, Nuwakot, Rasuwa, Sindhupalchok, and Kabhre.
- WFP is committed to expedite the relief operation and transition into early recovery and long-term reconstruction. WFP's approach in the recovery phase, which is broadly supported by the Government, will leverage its extensive experience in Nepal in running community public works and rural development schemes in remote areas using conditional cash and food transfers.
- WFP is involved in the upcoming Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA), together with the World Bank, the EU and key development partners. Drawing on NeKSAP, the Nepal Government's food security monitoring system, which is supported by WFP and funded by the EU, WFP is well positioned to provide in-depth assessment information on food security and nutrition status, market analysis, livelihoods and agriculture. Building on WFP's long-standing presence in Nepal, WFP will be part of the core team in the Health and Nutrition sector, the Employment, Livelihoods and Social Protection sector, the Community Infrastructure sector, the Agriculture and Irrigation sector, and the Disaster Risk Management sector.
- Since launching the massive response to meet the needs of earthquake-affected people, WFP has received US\$19.3 million for all three operations with US\$7.8 million for the EMOP, US\$6.8 million for the UNHAS Special Operation, and US\$4.7 million for the Logistics and Telecommunications Special Operation.

In numbers



More than **8,309 people** perished

16,808 people injured

8 million people affected

Funding

Flash Appeal: **US\$423 million**

Corporate Response EMOP:

US\$116.6 million

Special Operation Logistics Augmentation and Emergency Telecommunication Cluster:

US\$25.6 million

Special Operation UNHAS:

US\$8.5 million

Situation Update

- There has been significant damage reported in the Chautara and Charikot hinterland as a result of the latest earthquake. The earthquake triggered further landslides which further complicate access to remote areas.
- With the onset of the monsoon season just a few weeks away, the Government and humanitarian agencies are exploring all possible options to deliver life-saving food, shelter and other relief supplies to the villages in the high mountainous areas.
- Further complicating the tremendous logistical challenges facing the humanitarian response is the concern of additional landslides and flash floods which could impede access to villages off subsidiary roads.

WFP Response

- While it is too early to determine emerging needs resulting from the second earthquake, with the epicentre of the earthquake striking an already heavily affected area, it can be envisaged that needs may increase.
- To address the immediate needs of second-earthquake affected families, WFP dispatched 10 mt of High Energy Biscuits (HEB) via helicopter to Dolakha, near the epicentre of the earthquake.
- The limited availability of air assets and small trucks is constraining a more rapid humanitarian response. Serious transport and logistical challenges are having an impact on WFP's ability to swiftly transport field assessment teams and deliver food to those most in need.
- **Cash:** Whilst focusing on in-kind distributions in the worst hit remote areas, WFP is transitioning to unconditional cash transfers in Makawanpur where the markets are functioning. Registration for cash for work in Makawanpur has begun in coordination with the district authorities and partners to reach a planned 58,000 beneficiaries. WFP is also looking to expand cash interventions in Ramechhap, Sindhuli and Okhaldungha and will look into a wider cash/food for work intervention post monsoon season.

- **Nutrition:** WFP plans to distribute Ready-to-Use Supplementary Food (RUSF) through the Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) which will be implemented in up to eight districts targeting 37,000 children 6–23 months. Additionally, 24,000 pregnant and lactating women will receive high energy biscuits. Education on optimal infant and young child feeding practices is also part of the programme. The nutrition intervention will be integrated into the in-kind and cash response for a coordinated WFP approach.



Logistics

- As of 14 May, food has been delivered to nearly 1.2 million people in 211 Village District Committees (VDC) in the districts of Dhading, Nuwakot, Gorkha, Sindhupalchok, Rasuwa and Kabhre. WFP continues to use all available assets to move food urgently to the very remote villages in the most affected districts.
- Due to the exceptionally difficult terrain, WFP has contracted a fleet of small trucks before the onset of the monsoon in June, when heavy rains trigger further and landslides and cut-off off access to many locations.
- WFP is establishing a new road corridor from Calcutta will be operated as a common service for the humanitarian community.

Clusters



Food Security Cluster (FSC)

- FSC is establishing district level clusters in Gorkha, Dhading and Sindhupalchok.
- The Government of Nepal's (NeKSAP) Food Security District Network has completed the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) assessment in eight districts. At the same time, the joint household level needs assessment under NeKSAP and the Food Security Cluster (FSC) continue despite challenges of limited car availability and difficult geographic terrain.



Logistics Cluster

- As of 14 May, the Logistics Cluster has handled approximately 1,700 mt of relief cargo through the Humanitarian Staging Area (HSA) for 49 humanitarian organisations since the beginning of the operation.
- To meet the need for longer term storage and to de-congest the HSA, a hub has been established near Kathmandu in Dhulikhel. Two Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) have also been erected at this location.
- A recently established staging area in Bharatpur will handle the movement of inbound road cargo movements from India. However, with the continued need to swiftly deliver relief items before the monsoon begins, augmenting and expanding logistics services with off-road trucks and air asset capacity are crucial to ensure the movement of urgently needed supplies to mountainous, remote areas.

- **UN Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS):**
With the increasing need for air capacity, UNHAS continues to scale up its fleet to deliver food and relief items and facilitate assessment missions. On May 13, UNHAS performed four evacuation missions to rescue four teams (Samaritan's Purse, Plan International, Sustainable Communities Worldwide) who were stranded near the epicentre of the earthquake. Since the beginning of the operation, UNHAS has transported 217 passengers belonging to 14 organisations to 26 locations and 68 mt of relief items to 14 destinations.



Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

- Despite facing significant challenges in the movement of equipment into the country and to remote locations, ETC shared internet connectivity services are now being provided in seven locations across Nepal including the HSA, UN House and the On-site Operations Coordination Centre (OSOCC) in Kathmandu.
- Under the leadership of ETC member NetHope, and with support from Ericsson Response, shared internet services have been established in Arughat, Gorka Province at the Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) offices.
- Over 400 responders from 100 different humanitarian organisations are now using internet services provided by the ETC.

Staff Deployments

- There are currently 105 staff deployed and six due to arrive for the earthquake response in addition to the 137 WFP pre-emergency staff.

Resourcing Update

- As of 13 May, the Emergency Operation, valued at US\$116.6 million, recently received fresh contributions from Canada, Japan, and more from Private Sector donors. With these contributions, and those from Liechtenstein, Private Sector, and UN CERF, the operation is now 7 percent funded. Pledges have been made and contributions are also expected from the United States. Securing additional funding for the Emergency Operation is essential to ensure reaches earthquake affected families in need.
- With a new contribution from Japan valued at US\$500,000, the US\$8.5 million Special Operation for UN Humanitarian Air Services and the contributions from Denmark, the United Kingdom and UN CERF, the operation is now 81 percent funded. Funding is urgently required to meet the full requirements of this operation which is being expanded to include five MI8 helicopters and three smaller AS350 helicopters.

- The US\$25.6 Special Operation for Logistics and Telecommunications Augmentation and Coordination which provides common services to the entire humanitarian community remains critically under-resourced. While fresh funds from Canada, Germany, Japan, and the Private Sector have been confirmed, together with contribution from the private sector and UN CERF, the operation is only 18 percent resourced. Robust levels of funding are required urgently to ensure the rapid delivery of humanitarian assistance to the affected population, especially before the impending monsoon.

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Key Links

- [Nepal Emergency Operation](#)
- [Nepal SO— Logistics and Telecommunications Augmentation](#)
- [Nepal SO — UNHAS](#)

Clusters

- [Emergency Telecommunications](#)
- [Logistics](#)
- [Food Security](#)

Latest Media

<http://www.wfp.org/stories/nepal-new-challenges-ahead-relief-operations-following-new-quake>

<http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/wfp-expands-nepal-earthquake-response-stresses-urgent-funding-needs-food>



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