



WFP/Joanna Purcell

WFP is finishing up its phase two food distributions in Sindhupalchok, one of the worst hit districts by the first earthquake.

## Highlights and Key Messages

- UNHAS Funding Shortfalls:** UNHAS air support is expected to stop at the end of August if there are no further indications of funding. With the support of the UN Resident Coordinator, UNHAS is working against the clock with donors and logistics cluster partners to explore alternative funding options. A suspension of UNHAS services would affect 146,000 people in isolated areas in the north, including those severely impacted by the earthquakes and monsoon.
- What WFP Recipients Think:** WFP carried out post-distribution monitoring of people reached through food and cash support in phases one and two of the emergency response. For those who received cash, the survey found that people prioritised buying food, rehabilitating the family house, saving and paying for school fees, in that order. For those who received WFP food supplies, nearly all of those interviewed (96 percent) were satisfied with the quality of the food they received. Finally, 85 percent of people interviewed showed full awareness of their food entitlements.
- Focus on Sustainability:** Moving into the final phase of the emergency operation, WFP is increasingly concentrating on serving earthquake-affected populations in the most sustainable way. Food and cash support will be given to eligible participants to work on restoring critical community assets, such as trail repair, terrace protection and rehabilitation of schools. WFP cash support provides people with the means to buy the food of their choice, while ensuring that local markets are supported.
- Funding for WFP Earthquake Response:** WFP has received contributions from its private sector donors, multilateral donors, Australia, Canada, Denmark, the European Union, Germany, Japan, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States, and UN CERF.



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## Nepal: Earthquake

### The Humanitarian Community's response

**340,000** families who lost their homes were provided with emergency shelter and another **170,000** households received materials to improve their damaged dwellings.

Food assistance was delivered to over **2 million** people. These achievements would not have been possible without the leadership of the Government of Nepal and the commitment of the people of Nepal.

Source: OCHA (August 2015)

## In numbers



**2 million** people reached in the first, immediate relief, phase of the emergency operation.

Over **1 million** people (97% of WFP's planned beneficiaries) have received assistance in the second, structured relief, phase.

## Funding Requirements

Nepal Earthquake 2015 Flash Appeal: US\$422 million (**54% funded**)

Emergency Operation: US\$80.3 million (**43% funded**)

Special Operation Logistics Augmentation and Emergency Telecommunications: US\$32.9 million (**45% funded**)

Special Operation UNHAS: Pending budget revision will require US\$18 million (**54% funded**)

## Empowering women in the mountains of Bigu

Just behind the village of Bigu, Dolokha district, lies the evidence of a recent landslide. The people in this village are constantly aware of how precarious their lives are on this unstable terrain.

It is here in Bigu that WFP's Remote Access Operation is working, using porters and mules to get humanitarian supplies to people cut off by landslides. In Dolokha, around fifty percent of porters are female. Most of the women here were alone the day the earthquake struck as the majority of the men of the village had gone abroad in the hopes of sending money home.

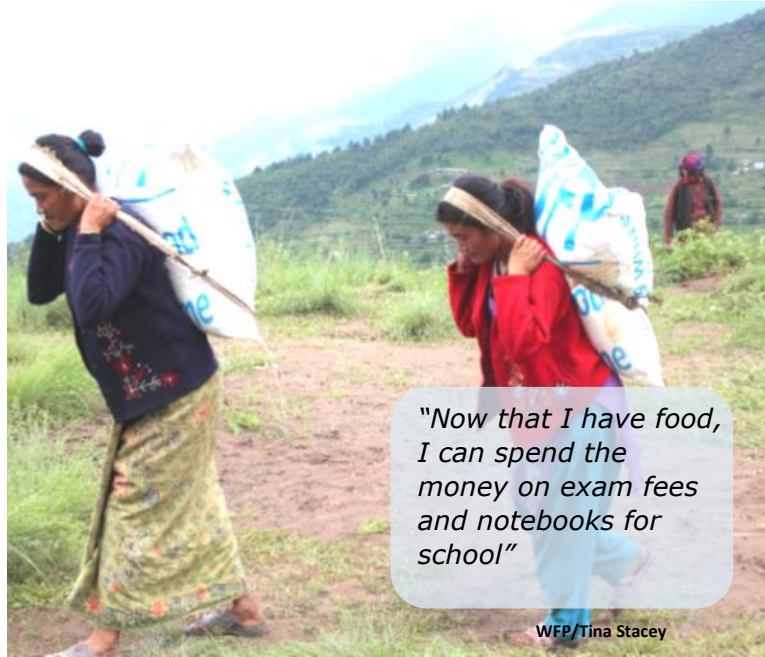
After a hard day's work, Sachi Maya Thamir and Sushila Kami reflect on how they began working as porters. 'Both our houses collapsed in the earthquake but luckily we were outside in the

***"Our houses collapsed in the earthquake but luckily we were outside in the fields when it happened".***

fields when it happened,' recounts Sachi Maya of the first earthquake in April. For two days afterwards they had no food—their stocks were lost along with clothes, dishes and other household belongings. As members of a marginalised

community, they were the beneficiaries of a community-sharing scheme initiated within days of the earthquake.

Their husbands had been sending money from abroad, which Sachi Maya and Sushila would collect from the remittance agents. However,



*"Now that I have food, I can spend the money on exam fees and notebooks for school"*

WFP/Tina Stacey

Female porters ensuring that their families are supported through employment with the Remote Access Operations.

due to the fear of moving around in such precarious conditions, landslides and the lack of safe access along trails, it became increasingly difficult to get to these offices to access the money.

When the opportunity came to work on the Remote Access Operation project Sachi Maya and Sushila registered with the Nepal Mountaineering Association, one of WFP's expert partners. This opportunity is enabling them to gain some financial independence and continue supporting their children.

When asked how she will spend the money earned from her portering, Sushila said, 'now that I have food, I can spend the money on my children's exam fees and notebooks for school'.

The Remote Access Operation is an innovative approach to getting food to isolated communities in isolated and mountainous areas of Nepal. The earthquakes and subsequent landslides, compounded by the rainy season, have ensured that the terrain of earthquake-hit Nepal is always in danger of moving. Workers and porters work to clear debris, and ensure that trekking and community trails are opened up, opening up access to market and speeding up the reinvigoration of the tourist industry.

The Remote Access Operation does not just create lifelines by rehabilitating trails and deliver vital emergency supplies, it also touches people's lives, just like Sushila and Sachi Maya, in a way many of us find hard to imagine. By earning an income these women achieve financial independence. This support enables their children to continue their education and provides a vital lifeline after the earthquake.



Women lining up to receive WFP food brought to them by porters like Sachi Maya and Sushila.

WFP/Tina Stacey

## WFP Response

- **Structured Relief Phase:** Phase two of the emergency response, which will soon come to a close, is focusing on more structured relief in the form of food support and cash for assets. WFP has already reached 1,060,000 people, 97 percent of the people it planned to serve with food and cash assistance.
- 966,480 people have been assisted with 8,112 mt of food consisting of rice, pulses and oil.
- **Cash for Assets:** WFP's cash programme complements its food assistance activities by providing participants with the means to purchase available food at their local marketplace in exchange for 20 days light work, including post-quake debris clearance.
- In the second phase, 93,337 people have been reached through the cash for assets programme. Each participating household has received US\$80 in Makwanpur district and neighbouring Sindhuli district. To date, WFP has distributed over US\$1.46 million to programme participants.
- **Nutrition:** The WFP nutrition response is carried out through a phased approach beginning with a blanket supplementary feeding programme (BSFP) in phase two, targeting children under two years, pregnant and nursing women.
- Through the BSFP, which aims to prevent acute malnutrition, WFP has assisted 28,500 children under two years, 950 pregnant women and 725 nursing mothers. Children were given Plumpy'doz, a specialised nutrition supplement, while pregnant and nursing women received Super Cereal, a corn soya blend. To date, 87.5 mt of Plumpy'doz and 5 mt of Super Cereal have been distributed.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E):** WFP carried out post-distribution monitoring of people reached by WFP through nutrition, food and cash support in phases one and two of the emergency response. WFP M&E gathered data on beneficiary satisfaction with the implementation process as well as monitoring of distribution sites to ensure a smooth and accountable distribution process.
- Some indicators included: the proportion of assisted women, men or both women *and* men who make decisions over the use of cash or food within the household; and the proportion of assisted people who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme sites.
- For those who received cash, the survey found that people prioritised buying food, rehabilitating the family house, saving and paying for school fees, in that order.
- More than half of the households interviewed indicated that both male and female members equally make decisions over the use of cash at household level. Furthermore, there are more households that have female members making financial decision than those with males.
- For those who received WFP food supplies, nearly all of those interviewed (96 percent) were



Ensuring people's voices are heard during a food distribution in Chautara, Sindhupalchok district.

satisfied with the quality of the food they received.

- In the areas where food was distributed, the survey revealed that the majority of the household income was from farming (49 percent) which is also the predominant livelihood in the country. The next highest income category was remittances (18 percent) indicating that migration for work is relatively high, leaving female members as heads of household in some 29 percent of cases.
- **World Health Organization (WHO) Clinics:** WFP is working with WHO to establish medical clinics in some of the worst-affected areas in the country. After more than 900 health facilities were either destroyed or damaged, WFP has mobilised its logistical, operational and engineering expertise to transport and construct these temporary clinics.
- So far, 44 locations have been proposed by WHO. Work is pending for five sites, while 32 camps have been completed. WHO is following up with the District Health Officers to clear the land for the rest of the sites.



### WFP Logistics

- To date, 8,500 mt of food have been dispatched from WFP hubs to the different extended delivery points in preparation for distribution, representing 100 percent of total food requirements for phase two.
- Food distributions are pending in one remaining district, Sindhupalchok.
- The logistics team is working with potential cooperating partners for phase three of operations in arranging the delivery and distribution of food.
- Priorities for logistics in phase three are to pre-position food commodities to mitigate transport disruption during the worsening monsoon season.

## Clusters



### Food Security Cluster (FSC)

- **Funding:** Funding for FSC stands at 30 percent within the Flash Appeal, while some US\$9 million was allocated outside of the appeal. The Flash Appeal will come to a close on 30 September.
- **Achievements:** FSC partners continue to deliver assistance with a special focus on hard to reach areas. Food assistance was provided to 1.3 million people (food and cash) between 11 June and the end of July. Since the beginning of the monsoon season, 241,000 livelihood kits (including seeds, grain, animal feed and tools) have been distributed. Partners are fully engaged in recovery programming, particularly agriculture, market revitalisation, and other livelihoods activities. Emergency operations continue to reach the most vulnerable in hard to access areas. It is essential that their needs are met before the onset of winter.
- **Needs assessments:** Preparations for the multi-sectoral food security and livelihoods assessment is underway, with plans to start field work early September.
- **Other cluster work:** The global FSC is supporting the national cluster members to improve the information management processes and systems used in Nepal. Information management training has been carried out with over 20 NGO, government, and UN partners.



### Logistics Cluster

- **UNHAS:** Without essential and urgent funding for its services, UNHAS flights will only be able to operate until the end of August. This will leave 146,000 people who live in communities devastated by the 25 April and 12 May earthquakes without access to emergency food, medicine, building supplies and other humanitarian items. With the ongoing monsoon season, increased landslides are cutting off roads, making the air service even more critical by the day.
- UNHAS is working against the clock with the UN resident coordinator, donors and logistics cluster partners to explore alternative funding options.
- Since the beginning of the earthquake response, UNHAS has carried out 3,219 sorties to 143 different locations. 2,820 passengers and 1,687 mt of cargo have been transported on behalf of 147 organisations. Prioritisation for airlifts is taking place under the list of priorities established by the humanitarian country team and the Humanitarian Coordinator in accordance with the mandate of the common services.
- **Access Infrastructure Working Group:** Already damaged in the earthquake, Nepal's road infrastructure is suffering further deterioration from the monsoon season. Massive landslides have left many areas with limited or no road access, and this is disrupting deliveries of food and other emergency supplies.


- Together with local authorities, WFP has begun a joint engineering assessment of secondary rural roads that have been blocked by recent landslides. The assessment will help authorities understand the requirements to reopen these roads. This assessment, which is complementary to the Government of Nepal's ongoing reconstruction efforts, is a first step towards repairing critical infrastructure needed to allow the free flow of commerce services and relief supplies.
- The working group, which had its first meeting this week, will focus on gathering available information on the access infrastructure network, selecting damaged roads/bridges and carrying out repair work to re-establish access to communities in need. Road assessments are already being conducted in Sindhupalchok district, where activities will initially concentrate.
- **Remote Access Operations (RAO):** As part of WFP's logistics special operation, the Remote Access Operation has delivered 389 mt, of which 258 mt constitutes food and 130 mt of non-food items to earthquake-affected populations.
- RAO has provided employment to 14,130 people to carry humanitarian cargo to some of the hardest to reach earthquake-affected areas and rehabilitate trekking and community trails for the safe passage of supplies and to connect communities to the markets. Strategic points have been cleared along 523 kilometres of trails and work is ongoing along a further 271 kilometres of trails. This work has ensured that 100,412 people are no longer cut off and now have access to markets.
- **Cargo:** To date, 18,632 mt of cargo has been facilitated through the Logistics Cluster for 141 UN agencies and I/NGOs.
- **Mapping:** Current Logistics Cluster maps include a regularly updated Road Access Map, maps of helicopter landing zones, local district maps of the trails to be used by porter operations and topographical area maps. These are all available for download on the Logistics Cluster website at <http://logcluster.org/ops/nepal>.



### Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

- ETC services remain operational in 14 sites across three main common hubs: Gorkha, Chautara and Charikot. Humanitarian workers operating in these locations are provided with internet connectivity, radio communication and ICT helpdesk. Over 1,400 humanitarians from more than 250 organisations are currently using internet services provided by the ETC in Nepal.
- Partners from CMC Finland, emergency.lu, Ericsson Response, IFRC, MSB, NetHope, Plan International, RedR, UNDSS and WFP are currently supporting ETC operations.
- The ETC is engaging with partners to transition services after the end of September, as originally planned.

## Resourcing Update

- WFP has received generous contributions from a number of donors, including multilateral donors, Australia, Canada, Denmark, European Commission, Germany, Japan, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States, UN CERF and the private sector.
- With an operational requirement of US\$80.3 million, the Emergency Operation is now 43 percent funded. Funding is required throughout the monsoon season to carry out recovery efforts through cash and food for assets activities, and continue essential nutrition interventions from August onwards.
-  UNHAS is struggling to maintain its fleet in the face of huge funding shortfalls and consistent demand for cargo transport from the humanitarian community. A new budget revision will bring operational requirements to US\$18 million, 54 percent funded. A generous contribution of US\$1.1 million from Government of Sweden is nearing confirmation. Funding support is still needed in order to maintain this vital service.
- Thanks to a US\$3 million contribution from CERF, the US\$32.9 Logistics and Telecommunications Augmentation and Coordination Special Operation is now 45 percent funded. It is in the interest of all the stakeholders to have both Special Operations fully-funded as they specifically support organisations in their humanitarian efforts.
- A protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) is currently in the planning stages, to continue to support earthquake-affected populations into 2016 and beyond.

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Nepal: Earthquake

[www.wfp.org/countries/Nepal](http://www.wfp.org/countries/Nepal)

## Key Links

### Operations

[Nepal Emergency Operation](#)

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

[Nepal SO — United Nations Air Service \(UNHAS\)](#)

### Clusters

[Emergency Telecommunications \(ETC\)](#)

[Logistics Cluster](#)

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