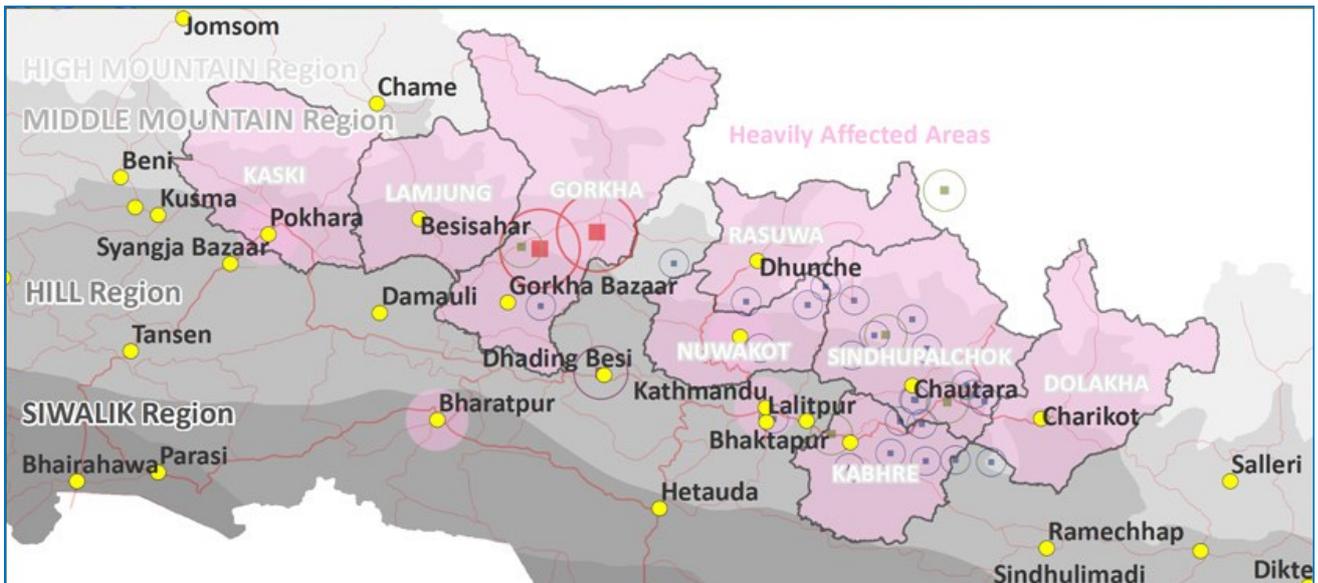




World Food Programme

Nepal: Earthquake



Nepal Earthquake: The most affected areas are Gorkha, Lamjung, Sindhupalchok, Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Lalitpur districts.

Highlights

- WFP is gearing up to mount a significant response to the Government of Nepal's official request for international humanitarian assistance for the earthquake. Specialized WFP emergency teams have arrived and are being mobilized to support the overall response together with the Government, building on extensive pre-established emergency preparedness measures for Nepal. High Energy Biscuits are also being flown into Kathmandu from the UN Humanitarian Response Depot as part of WFP's initial response.
- The scale and magnitude of the earthquake's impact continues to be assessed via aerial assessments and other means. The government has reported that a total of 30 districts have been affected in the Western and Central Regions, including Kathmandu Valley districts. Meanwhile, WFP's Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM) teams are using satellite imagery and available data to make an initial assessment of the situation. The VAM team will be able to broadly identify the number and locations of the affected population which WFP will then use as a basis to target emergency food assistance.
- WFP is preparing an Emergency Operation, which will be informed by VAM's remote assessment. Two Special Operations — one for Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Augmentation and another for a UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) operation — will support the overall relief response, as part of WFP's common service platform for the international community. The three projects are expected to be released in the next 24-48 hours covering the scope of WFP's response, with a view to refine and re-adjust figures in the coming weeks as relief missions confirm and conclude assessments.
- All 136 staff working for WFP in Nepal are accounted for.

Situation Update

- Nepal's main airport—Tribhuvan International Airport (TIA)—is open and functioning. WFP is working with the Government and Humanitarian Country Team, in its role as Cluster-lead for Logistics, on a prioritization mechanism for incoming flights and delivery of relief items.

It should be noted that this has been rehearsed during extensive simulation exercises with the government, including airport authorities earlier this year. WFP is also assessing alternative transport options into Kathmandu from India for the delivery of humanitarian assistance to ease anticipated traffic congestion in TIA.

- WFP's Humanitarian Staging Area (HAS) in TIA is fully operational. It includes power, telecommunications facilities, storage and office space that can help support an international humanitarian community response. The purpose of the HSA is to facilitate the movement of all incoming humanitarian items, record and then dispatch items to affected locations.
- Access within the Kathmandu Valley appears to be relatively open, although mountainous areas within the Valley are reported to be inaccessible, having withstood heavy and extensive damage. As stated above, UNHAS is being activated under WFP's Special Operation to access remote areas cut off completely or hard to reach overland via helicopters with relief missions and cargo.

WFP Response

- The Government and humanitarian teams continue to assess the extent of the earthquake's impact. WFP's VAM teams are working on remote assessment data which will inform WFP's Emergency Operation. At this stage, the affected population live in a mainly agricultural region home to up to 2-3 million people, Harvests have just been completed, and this same population would have been preparing for the upcoming planting season, consisting of mainly maize and potatoes.
- High Energy Biscuits are expected to arrive in Kathmandu between Monday and Tuesday, 27-28 April, from the UN Humanitarian Response Depot as part of WFP's initial response.
- WFP's Emergency Operation is expected to cater to the needs of the affected population through emergency food distributions for internally displaced persons and other vulnerable people unable to access food through their normal livelihood means. Interventions will also include blanket supplementary feeding for children 6-23 months and pregnant and lactating women to prevent a deterioration of their nutritional status as well as targeted supplementary feeding to treat moderate acute malnutrition among children 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women.
- The Special Operation for Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications augmentation will include elements for a dedicated contracted fleet response, logistics service provision to the international humanitarian community, including fuel, storage and office facilities as well as a civil-military liaison function, and take into account the establishment of staging areas in certain



WFP's teams are already working out of the Humanitarian Staging Area (HSA) at Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu. The HSA was inaugurated only last month as part of WFP's emergency preparedness work in Nepal. It includes power, communications facilities, storage space and office buildings.

locations, including Birganj, India. The UNHAS Special Operation will include provisions for tactical airlifts via helicopters to the more remote affected areas which are hard to access by overland.

Resourcing Update

- WFP is seeking resources to support its Emergency Operation and two Special Operations. It should be noted that WFP's Emergency Operation is based on a corporate response model and will be refined and adjusted in the coming weeks. Similar adjustments may be made to the Special Operations as more information becomes known.
- Work will begin in the coming hours on a UN Flash Appeal based on priority needs and priority districts.

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