Nepal:
Earthquake

Two months after the 25 April earthquake:
2.8 million people continue to require vital humanitarian assistance, such as temporary shelter, food and livelihood support, and basic medical care.
An estimated one million people continue to require food assistance to meet their daily dietary requirements, while 500,000 people need continued support to protect and restore their livelihoods.
As the monsoon season begins, provision of relief depends now more than ever on logistical support.
Humanitarian needs are still significant and are expected to persist through to the end of September.
Source: Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

Highlights and Key Messages

- In line with the priorities of the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA), WFP is now transitioning its earthquake response to promote early recovery by:
  i) increasing the use of cash transfers;
  ii) bolstering the food security monitoring capacity to collect quality information on damaged assets and infrastructure;
  iii) supporting the transport of urgently needed shelter and reconstruction materials on behalf of the entire humanitarian community;
  iv) reducing the risk of future disasters by building on preparedness activities undertaken with the Government of Nepal prior to the earthquake.

- WFP’s response to the twin earthquakes has played a pivotal role in promoting local investment, as well as creating employment opportunities. Examples of this are WFP’s work with local mountaineering agencies to repair Nepal’s trails and trekking routes to revive the tourism sector, as well as reinvigorating the local economy through cash transfers.

- Targeting 1.15 million for Phase II of its operation, WFP has so far reached over 386,700 people with in-kind food rations, cash distributions (US$370,723) and nutrition supplements to prevent acute malnutrition for children under two, and pregnant and nursing women.

- In collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO), WFP continues to restore Nepal’s health care services. WFP has completed five clinics in Dhading district, with each clinic taking under a week to set up. Work has begun on four more clinics in Rasuwa district.

- Primarily focusing on rehabilitation and recovery through cash-based interventions, for the next and final phase of its operation, WFP is in urgent need of US$73 million, including its special operations for logistics and telecommunications support for the entire humanitarian community and the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS).

In numbers

- 8,831 deaths (3,936 male, 4,889 female, 6 unidentified)
- 8 million people affected
- 2 million people reached in Phase I
- 1.15 million people targeted in Phase II
- Over 386,700 people have received assistance in Phase II, of which 31,022 received cash

Funding

- Flash Appeal: US$422 million (39% funded)
- Emergency Operation: US$80.3 million (33% funded)
- Special Operation Logistics Augmentation and Emergency Telecommunications Cluster: US$25.6 million (42% funded)
- Special Operation UNHAS: US$13 million (68% funded)
Repairing Nepal’s trails and trekking routes

WFP established its Nepal-tailored logistics plan, called Operation Mountain Express, to ensure that its humanitarian cargo gets to even the most difficult to reach areas. Coming into monsoon season, the terrain, already degraded from the earthquakes and the resulting landslides, is becoming ever more impassable. Plus, there are areas where a large MI8 helicopter simply cannot land. The idea: WFP works together with local mountaineering associations, the Nepal Army and the Armed Police Force to rehabilitated kilometres of Nepal’s damaged trekking trails. These trails can then be used as a cargo passage for porters and even mules, delivering to isolated populations high up in the mountains.

Local investment and employment

Where roads can be used, WFP activates its fleet of trucks, including large load carriers, as well as off-road trucks and tractors. WFP is working with local trucking companies and hiring local truck drivers who have a sound knowledge of Nepal’s terrain to take humanitarian cargo from any one of WFP’s logistics hubs and relay it directly to the affected areas, or to satellite hubs, where the cargo is repacked for the porters, who will carry the cargo on the final leg of its journey.

Boosting the local market

WFP knows the importance of buying locally. In the two months since the earthquake, WFP has procured over ten thousand tonnes of food from the local market, working with over a dozen local suppliers.

The importance of local staff

Finally, wherever possible WFP seeks to hire local staff. To date, over one hundred staff has been locally recruited as part of the earthquake response. WFP Nepal is currently scaling down the number of international staff deployed as part of the emergency response, while continuing to build the capacity of new and existing national staff.
WFP Response

- **The second phase:** In Phase II of its operation, WFP has reached over 386,700 people with food assistance, of which 355,726 have been assisted with 2,985 mt of in-kind food rations consisting of rice, pulses and oil.

- **Cash:** Of the people assisted in Phase II, 31,022 have received cash in the cash for assets programme. Each participating household has received the full US$80 in Makwanpur district. To date, WFP has distributed over US$370,700.

- **Nutrition:** Through its Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) which aims to prevent acute malnutrition, WFP has assisted 11,336 children under two years; 817 pregnant women; and 608 nursing women. For the children, WFP is distributing Plumpy’doz, a specialised nutrition supplement. For pregnant and nursing women, WFP is distributing Super Cereal, a corn soya blend. To date, 36 mt of Plumpy’doz and 4.35 mt of Super Cereal have been distributed.

- **WHO Clinics:** WFP, in collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO), is in the process of constructing 50 temporary clinics in some of Nepal’s most earthquake-affected areas. WFP Engineering has completed construction on five clinics in the priority district of Dhading, with each clinic taking under a week to set up. Work has begun on four more clinics in Rasuwa district.

Logistics

- To date, 5,145 mt of food have been dispatched from WFP hubs to the different extended delivery points (EDPs), representing 50 percent of the total food requirements for Phase II.

- There are logistics challenges for the timely delivery of food and non-food items to remote locations due to damaged rural roads and high river levels due to monsoon rain. This may increase transport costs and cause more reliance on airlifting of humanitarian cargo.

- Air delivery of food has also slowed down due to bad weather.

- Contracts have been award to procure 2,410 mt of food (rice, lentils and vegetable oil) locally, while almost all transport contracts have been awarded.

Clusters

- **Food Security Cluster (FSC)**
  - WFP, with Care Nepal, briefed partners on environmental mainstreaming in emergencies, with a specific focus on food security. A Rapid Environmental Assessment is currently being carried out to address environmental concerns across various sectors. The results will be available by mid-July. WWF and Care Nepal have offered their technical support to partners interested in improving environmental mainstreaming in their response.

Photo registration for recipients of the cash for work programme.
The cluster has produced a set of gaps analysis maps, assessing plans against cluster targets at VDC level. These maps will guide coordination at district level aiming to identify partners to cover the gap areas.

The FSC has established presence in nine out of the twelve affected districts, ensuring efficient coordination. FSC partners are currently implementing the second phase of the response. Over 220,000 people have been reached with food and an additional 240,000 have received livelihood support.

The current FSC coordinator has left Nepal. The new replacement will arrive at the beginning of July.

**Logistics Cluster**

**Cargo:** To date, a total of 10,717 mt of humanitarian cargo has been handled through the Logistics Cluster on behalf of 116 different organisations. Over 1,500 truckloads have been dispatched from Kathmandu, Deurali and Chautara.

**Logistics Hubs:** Current total storage capacity offered in-country to the humanitarian community amounts to over 9,320 m³ in Kathmandu, Deurali (Ghorka District), Chautara (Sindhulpachok District), Bharatpur (Chitwan), Dhulikhel (Kavre District), Bidur (Nuwakot District) and Dunche (Rasuwa District) and Charikot (Dolakha District).

**UNHAS:** Current UNHAS assets include two AS 350 helicopters for assessment missions/evacuations (maximum four passengers) and four MI8 helicopters (2-2.5 mt cargo capacity) for cargo transport.

- The demand for air cargo transportation remains high, especially for the movement of corrugated galvanised iron (CGI) in order to respond to pressing shelter needs in the areas affected by the earthquake and inaccessible by road. Assessment missions continue for the identification of potential landing zones in remote areas.

- Since the beginning of the operation, UNHAS has carried out 1,643 flights to 115 different locations, and 1,730 passengers and 871 mt of cargo have been transported on behalf of 97 organisations.

**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](http://logcluster.org/ops/nepal).

**Remote Access Operations (RAO):** As of 18 June, in the framework of the RAO, around 115 mt of food and 3.9 mt of non-food items have been dispatched. Distributions are ongoing in Gorkha and Dolakha districts. Porter and mule transport services will be provided at no cost to the users under the standard Logistics Cluster service request procedures. This will ensure a coordinated relief effort among all agencies, INGOs, local NGOs and the Government, avoiding duplication and ensuring that all available humanitarian goods reach the most affected populations. The RAO teams are currently on the ground in all five districts (Gorkha, Dolakha, Dhading, Rasuwa and Sindupalchok) where they have been providing oversight, technical guidance and quality assessment and advisory for trail rehabilitation as well as porter transport operations.

- Considering the heavy demand for logistics services including storage, road and air transport, the Logistics Cluster has asked OCHA to coordinate the consolidation of priorities in terms of cargo to be endorsed by the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC). This will allow the Logistics Cluster to continue serving the humanitarian community in line with current operational needs. The proposed scheme will soon be recommended to the HC and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) for their consideration.

**Customs:** The Logistics Cluster is working together with the Government of Nepal and relevant authorities to clarify the evolving customs procedures, in order to facilitate smooth operations on behalf of the humanitarian community.

### Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

- The ETC is now providing shared internet connectivity through a wireless link at a new site in Charikot.

- The ETC, including partners from emergency.lu, Ericsson Response, NetHope, Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) together with WFP, is providing shared internet services for the response community at 15 sites across three common operating areas of Gorkha, Chautara and Charikot.

- The ETC continues to provide secure telecommunications across the three common operating areas to ensure the safety and security of humanitarians operating in those areas.

- More than 1,158 humanitarians from 140 organisation are using internet services provided by the ETC in Nepal.

- The ETC continues to receive service requests from organisations in Nepal.

### Staff Deployments

- A total of 113 local staff have been hired for this emergency to date. Meanwhile, 217 international WFP staff members have been deployed, of which only 95 are still on the ground.
Resourcing Update

- WFP has received generous contributions from a number of donors, including Australia, Canada, Denmark, European Commission, Germany, Japan, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, Norway, United Kingdom, United States, UN CERF and the private sector.
- Valued at US$80.3 million, the Emergency Operation is now 33 percent funded. Urgent funding is required to continue delivering food and nutrition assistance through the monsoon and initiate recovery efforts through conditional cash transfers from July onwards.
- UNHAS continues to scale up its fleet to meet the needs of the humanitarian community. The operation has undergone a budget revision, with requirements now standing at US$13 million, which is currently 68 percent funded.
- The US$25.6 Logistics and ETC Special Operation is now 42 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 relief efforts.

Contacts

- Arnold Kawuba, Operational Information Management and Reporting Officer (Kathmandu) arnold.kawuba@wfp.org
- Robin Landis, Regional Reports Officer (Bangkok) robin.landis@wfp.org
- Michael Huggins, Regional Donor Relations Officer (Bangkok) michael.huggins@wfp.org
- Jin Iwata, Donor Relations Officer (Kathmandu) jin.iwata@wfp.org

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
- Food Security Cluster

Latest Media
- Helping Nepal Rebuild: the hard work is only beginning
- How providing cash is helping people recover from the Nepal earthquake
- Nepal: the steep path to recovery
- Everest heroes help Nepal quake relief effort

WFP thanks the following donors for their support:

- From the People of Japan
- DANIDA
- USAID
- UKaid
- Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands
- GOVERNMENT OF LIECHTENSTEIN
- NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
- United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund

The Private Sector
Companies, Foundations and Individuals