**Highlights and Key Messages**

- **Six Months of the Emergency Response:** October 25th marked six months since the devastating 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal. In this time, WFP has provided immediate and structured food and cash support to two million earthquake-affected people. A complex WFP-led logistics operation, including the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) helicopters, feeder road rehabilitation, and the use of porterage and mules through WFP’s Remote Access Operations, ensured that the remotest communities receive essential humanitarian supplies.

- **Phase Three Food and Cash Assistance:** As part of the final emergency early recovery phase, WFP is now supporting earthquake-affected populations with food and cash support in exchange for asset creation activities. So far WFP has distributed USD92,200 in cash support and 1,043 metric tons in food assistance to 15,830 households.

- **Effect of Nepal’s Fuel Crisis on WFP Operations:** WFP and the Logistics Cluster are working with the Government of Nepal to ensure that fuel is provided to humanitarian partners responding to the earthquake emergency, as and when it is available. All efforts are being made to ensure that the humanitarian response is not acutely affected. WFP has experienced delays in the delivery of its cargo, but has put in place stringent measures for its use of fuel, giving highest priority to the delivery of supplies to earthquake-affected populations. Nepal has entered its second month of the fuel shortage, which has impacted daily life throughout the country.

- **Demobilisation of the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC):** In line with its transition plan, the ETC has demobilised its services in all common operational areas located in earthquake-affected districts. The ETC thanks all of its partners for their valuable contribution to the response. The ETC has provided humanitarian users remaining in Nepal with support and advice on alternative and longer-term solutions, such as the use of local internet service providers.

- **Funding for WFP’s Earthquake Response:** WFP has received contributions from its private sector donors, multilateral donors, Australia, Canada, Denmark, European Union, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States and UN CERF.

**In numbers**

- **2 million** people reached in the first, immediate relief, phase of the emergency operation.
- **1.1 million** people reached through the second, structured relief, phase.
- **409,000** will be reached in the third and final phase.

**Funding Requirements**

- Emergency Operation: USD80 million (*44% funded*)
- Special Operation Logistics Augmentation and Emergency Telecommunications: USD33 million (*46% funded*)
- Special Operation UNHAS: USD17.4 million (*86% funded*)
Contributing to the Community

At 83 years of age, Yam Bahadur Thakuri is delighted to be working once again for his community. When he discovered that WFP was carrying out a Cash for Assets programme, he was one of the first to register his interest.

Yam lives in the village of Irkhu, Sindhupalchok, one of the worst affected districts by the Nepal earthquake. The district has since been hit by a number of landslides and landslips triggered by the quake and exacerbated by the monsoon season. WFP has introduced a cash for assets programme in the area so that villagers can purchase food at markets, rehabilitate their damaged community assets and soon get back on their feet in time for winter.

Yam’s team is rehabilitating a community road to allow vehicles to pass. This means local farmers can now start taking their vegetables to the market, reinvigorating the local economy of the village. It also means that essential ambulance services can resume.

Yam leaves the heavy labour to the younger members of the community and instead occupies himself with serving water to the other workers and clearing drains. “I never thought I would work again for my village, and now I’m working and earning some money. With what I get from WFP, I can buy and rear goats. It’s something I’ve always done.”

Cash for Assets in Nepal

When a 7.8 earthquake hit Nepal in late April, WFP immediately responded with emergency food supplies, as well as leading the logistics effort for the humanitarian community.

Just one month later, WFP had already begun supporting earthquake-affected communities in the debris-clearing effort through cash support in exchange for asset creation activities. Now that the debris is cleared, communities need to repair their damaged facilities: rehabilitating trails, creating irrigation systems, and carrying out slope stabilisation.

WFP SCOPE Technology

WFP Nepal has begun registering its Cash for Assets participants using its SCOPE mobile technology. SCOPE is an online application with offline capabilities to make managing WFP’s assistance delivery more efficient. In Nepal, SCOPE is being used to record and manage people’s information such as names, family information, age and location, as well as to create and send payment lists to the banks and mobile agents where beneficiaries can collect their entitlements.
WFP Response

- **Emergency Early Recovery Phase**: Phase three of the emergency response is well under way. WFP plans to reach 409,000 people through food and cash for assets interventions.
- **Food for Assets**: Distributions for the food for assets programme are ongoing in the districts of Dadhing, Dolakha, Gorkha, Kavre and Sindhupalchok.
  - WFP has so far distributed 1,043 mt of food supplies to 65,151 people.
- **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 phase three of the emergency operation, earthquake-affected people in the districts of Nuwakot and Sindhupalchok receive cash assistance in exchange for 40 days of asset creation work. This work includes rehabilitation of community trails, cultivation of kitchen gardens and slope stabilisation.
  - So far WFP has distributed USD92,200 in cash support to 1,844 households, in exchange for their participation in the programme. This will go to serving participants and their families, so far reaching 9,220 earthquake-affected people.
- **Nutrition**: WFP has been working closely with the Nutrition Cluster and Government of Nepal to support the development of an operations plan to address moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) across earthquake-affected districts. The Government has now approved and WFP will move forward in implementing programmes for treatment of MAM.
- **World Health Organization (WHO) Clinics**: In collaboration with WHO, WFP has completed 40 medical clinics in eleven of the worst-affected districts of Nepal. After more than 900 health facilities were either destroyed or damaged, WFP mobilised its logistical, operational and engineering expertise to transport and construct these temporary clinics. The clinics project has now been completed.
  - WFP and WHO are currently discussing another Nepal-based collaboration in the near future.
- **Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO)**: WFP has developed a three-year programme to respond to the reconstruction needs following the April earthquake. The operation, due to begin in 2016, will support both long-term food security and resilient livelihoods by:
  - restoring food and nutrition security and rebuild community infrastructure in support of Nepal’s recovery from the earthquake;
  - supporting the restoration of livelihoods and enhance community resilience to future shocks;
  - enhancing the Government of Nepal’s capacity to prepare for, monitor and respond to food insecurity and natural disasters.

WFP Logistics

- WFP logistics has dispatched 2,800 mt of food from its warehouses-suppliers to the different extended delivery points in the districts where WFP is working. This is enough for the first Round of phase three, representing 84 percent of delivery requirements in the first round
- UNHAS has so far airlifted a total of 272 mt of food for phase three distributions. Remote Access Operations are in the process of delivering in the districts of Gorkha, Dhading, Dolakha and Sindhulpalchok.
  - The supply of fuel in the country is showing little or no improvement as fuel tankers only sporadically cross the border from India into Nepal.
  - Similarly, truck convoys carrying WFP food at border entry points are slowly coming through, but sometimes spend extended periods stuck at the border.

Security

- **Delays at the Indo-Nepal Border**: Demonstrations and sporadic outbreaks of violence continue at the Indo-Nepal border in response to the recently promulgated constitution. It cannot always be predicted as to when cargo will be cleared at the border.
- **Commodity Shortages**: Due to this border insecurity, Nepal, including in the capital, Kathmandu, is facing shortages of daily commodities such as fuel, cooking gas and food items. WFP is working on contingency measures for its operations, assessments, road transportation and air operations.
Clusters

Food Security Cluster (FSC)

- **Achievements:** In September, Nepal Food Security and Monitoring System (NeKSAP) identified 530,000 people across eleven earthquake-affected districts as remaining in need of immediate food assistance. This improvement (down from 1.4 million in May) in the food security situation is due to timely and adequate humanitarian and food assistance, as well as adequate winter harvest of wheat and potatoes, improved road access and still-functioning markets.

- **Needs Assessments:** The joint food security, livelihood and early recovery assessment has been completed. The preliminary results will be disseminated in early November. The assessment compares any changes in food security and livelihood of affected populations to the same assessment done in May, immediately after the earthquake.

- **Other Cluster Work:** A lessons learned exercise for the FSC is planned to be carried out in December, before the phase out of FSC at the end of the month.

Logistics Cluster

- **Cargo:** Since the beginning of the operation, the Logistics Cluster has handled a total of 29,033 mt/66,161 m$^3$ of cargo, serving 153 organisations.

- **UNHAS:** UNHAS has moved to a partial cost recovery funding model, which requires users of UNHAS services to pay 20 percent of the cost of transporting their humanitarian personnel and cargo.

  - The UNHAS special operation has revised its budget to reflect this move to partial cost recovery. The budget now stands at USD17.4 million for the entire emergency response.

  - The UNHAS fleet has been reduced to two Mi8 helicopters for cargo and passenger transport.

  - Since the beginning of the earthquake response, UNHAS has carried out 4,290 sorties to 182 different locations, transporting 3,391 passengers and 2,294 mt of cargo on behalf of 157 organisations.

- **Access Infrastructure Working Group:** The Access Infrastructure Working Group, endorsed by the Government of Nepal and chaired by the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MoFALD), was established to ensure a coordinated approach to the implementation of infrastructure and access-related works. Group members include Government bodies, UN agencies, NGOs and the donor community.

- **Remote Access Operations (RAO):** As part of WFP’s logistics special operation, the Remote Access Operation has reached 77,747 people with 906 mt of humanitarian cargo, 470 mt of food and 436 mt of other humanitarian cargo.

  - RAO has provided employment to 24,065 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. Wages for porterage and labour total just over USD1.3 million, which go to sustain the local economy.

  - Strategic points have been cleared along 785 kilometres of trails and work is ongoing along a further 75 kilometres of trails. This work has ensured that 105,174 people are no longer cut off and now have access to markets.

- **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)

- The ETC has worked in close collaboration with government authorities, humanitarian organisations and national internet and mobile service providers to ensure smooth transition of communications services to local providers.

- In line with the transition plan, the ETC demobilised its services in all common operational areas at the end of October.

- Within the response timeframe, more than 1,550 humanitarians from over 250 organizations were registered to use ETC services in Nepal.

- ETC thanks all its partners from CMC Finland, emergency.lu, Ericsson Response, IFRC, MSB, NetHope, Plan International, RedR, UNDSS and WFP who have supported the provision of ETC services for their valued contribution to the response.

- To those users who remain in Nepal, ETC has provided support and advice on alternative and longer-term solutions, such as the use of local internet service provider which are now restored in common operational areas.
Resourcing Update

- With an operational requirement of USD80 million, the Emergency Operation is now 44 percent funded. Funding is required throughout the winter season to carry out recovery efforts through cash and food for assets activities, as well as essential nutrition interventions.

- UNHAS is operating on a cost recovery model. UNHAS users must provide 20 percent of the transport cost of their humanitarian cargo. UNHAS will still be in need of further donor contributions in the next months. Overall, operational requirements stand at USD17.4 million, which is 86 percent funded.

- The USD32.9 Logistics and Telecommunications Augmentation and Coordination Special Operation is now 46 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) will be presented at WFP’s Executive Board on 11 November. The PRRO will provide continued support from WFP to Nepal’s earthquake-affected populations into 2016 and beyond.

Key Links

Operations
Nepal Emergency Operation
Nepal SO—Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Augmentation
Nepal SO—United Nations Air Service (UNHAS)

Clusters
Logistics Cluster
Food Security Cluster

Latest Media
Ain’t No Mountain High Enough: Six Months After the Earthquake

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Nepal: Earthquake
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