Western Nepal Earthquake 2023
UNDP Update No. 3
22 December 2023

6.4 magnitude earthquake on 3 November 2023

UNDP Interventions				
2 Districts 5 Municipalities 8 Wards	**4,837**	**356,100**	**USD 1.025 million**	**UNDP, Government of Japan, EU Humanitarian Aid**
Working area	No. of Households	People Covered (Direct + Indirect)	Total Budget*	Funding partners**

SITUATION OVERVIEW

A 6.4 magnitude earthquake struck Western Nepal, affecting the districts of Jajarkot, Rukum West and Salyan of Karnali Province on 3 November 2023. At present, the Government and humanitarian partners are shifting their efforts toward reconstruction and recovery, with a focus on the winterization of transitional shelters.[1]

The details of the damage are as follows:

Number of deaths	154 (male:70, female: 84) people
Number of reported injuries	366 people
Number of Houses Partially Damaged	35,455 houses
Number of Houses Completely Damaged	26,557 houses
Number of Schools Affected	106 schools
Number of Hospitals Affected	77 hospitals

Disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used in this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

The key measures taken by the Government of Nepal include the transfer of NPR. 50,000 (US$376) to each household with completely damaged structures, to be distributed in two instalments incorporating the minimum standards necessary for shelter construction. The first installment has been released. Additionally, the Government will also provide free medical treatment to those injured in the earthquake across all hospitals and provided NPR. 200,000 ($1,500) to the families of those killed in the earthquake.[2] UN agencies have strengthened their cluster co-leadership functions at the national and provincial levels, moving from search and rescue response to recovery and rehabilitation. The Government of Nepal has initiated rapid post disaster need assessment to estimate damage and needs for reconstruction and recovery of the need related to last three major earthquakes in Nepal (the Doti 2022, the Bajhang 2023, the Jajarkot 2023 earthquakes). A working

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**UNDP has been working through the EU Humanitarian Aid funded SUPER project, and the Government of Japan funded Enhancing Human Security through Local Climate Actions project.

[1] UN RC Nepal & UNCT Nepal, 16 Nov 2023
[2] UN RC Nepal & UNCT Nepal, 16 Nov 2023

committee under National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority's (NDRRMA's) chair is preparing the preliminary damage and need assessment report. To share the preliminary findings of the Assessment and to explore reconstruction and rehabilitation modality and required resources, the Ministry of Finance is organizing the second consultation meeting with development partners and concerned authorities of Government of Nepal on 22nd December 2023.

UNDP INTERVENTIONS

UNDP has been playing a key role in response and recovery support in view of the recent earthquake, with Gender and Social Inclusion at the heart of its response initiatives. As the co-lead of the Early Recovery Cluster at the national level, with the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration as the cluster lead, UNDP has been providing the following support:

Emergency Relief and Early Recovery Support
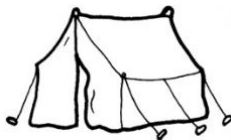

Photo Credit: UNDP Nepal

- UNDP, through Handicap International, provided 23 types of assistive devices for persons with disabilities in earthquake affected area. It includes slings, crutches, collars, kneecap, walking stick, walker, spinal board, canes, magnifier, and knee gaiter. It is also providing devices for physiotherapy support, which includes muscle stimulator, treadmill, hand grip exerciser, cryotherapy, wax bath therapy, moist heat therapy, therapeutic ultrasound, interferential therapy, among others.
- A beneficiary list was prepared for relief distribution to ensure that the most vulnerable, including single women, elders, were prioritized and to leave no one behind in coordination with the LG. The relief items being distributed are as follows:

270 blankets in Nalgad and Barekot municipalities	15,000 warm jackets in Nalgad, Barekot, Sani Bheri and Aathbiskot municipalities
103 tents in Nalgad and Barekot municipalities	300 P-Foams in Nalgad and Barekot municipalities
8000 thermocoat in Nalgad, Barekot, Sani Bheri and Aathbiskot municipalities	

Coordination and Information Management
- At the national level, the Early Recovery cluster led by Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration and co-led by UNDP held the first meeting on 3 November 2023.
- At the provincial level, the Early Recovery cluster led by the Ministry of Industry Tourism Forest and Environment and co-led by UNDP help the first meeting on 8 November 2023 and 23 November 2023.
- 8 Information Management Officers have been deployed at the provincial, district and municipal level, including in Aathbiskot Municipality, and Sani Bheri Municipality in Rukum West District; Bheri Municipality in Jajarkot District, and Surkhet District. They are providing data and information management support related to earthquake response efforts.
- 1 Early Recovery Cluster Coordinator deployed at the provincial level; and 1 Early Recovery Cluster Coordinator and Information Management Officer assigned at the national level to facilitate smooth coordination.
- In the recruitment of all these positions, gender and social inclusion has been considered to ensure representation.
- An initial drone assessment has been carried out by a drone pilot to collect preliminary damage information in Barekot Rural Municipality and Nalgad Municipality.
- UNDP is a member of the preliminary damage and need assessment (PDNA) working committee and provided inputs in its first and second meeting held on 5 and 8 December respectively.
- UNDP, as co-lead of early recovery cluster, has led the preparation of joint early recovery cluster response plan, which is part of the *Joint Recovery Plan – Western Nepal Earthquake*.

Debris Management and Rubble Removal
- 400 HHs in 4 LG - including in Aathbiskot Municipality, Bheri Municipality, Nalgad Municipality and Barekot Rural Municipality – to support removal of the rubble using cash for work modality has been planned. In Rukum West District debris removal completed in 20 HH, and 80 HH selected; in Jajarkot, debris removal completed in 20 HH, and 44 HH selected, both in close coordination with LG and respective ward offices.
- Ward 12 and Barekot Rural Municipality, Ward 2, the rubble/debris removal work has started and vulnerable groups such as Dalits, women headed HH have been prioritized.
- 10 engineers are on board, among whom 2 female, to supervise this process to ensure safety.
- Personal Protective Equipment - including 200 Gum Boots, 200 Safety Helmets, 200 Safety Gloves, 200 Shovels and Cement mixing bowls - have been provided.
- In Chaurjahari Municipality, in Rukum West, a rapid assessment of 1500 HH conducted and mapped along with the documentation of the photos of damaged houses and the owner.

Governance Support for Service Delivery
- UNDP and NSET are collaborating to assess all public buildings, except health and school buildings, in Barekot Rural Municipality and Nalgad Muncipality in Jajarot District to conduct rapid structural safety assessment and recommend temporary solutions for damaged facilities.
- 6 priority public buildings are being prefabricated to provide basic services. These buildings include:
  - Aathbiskot Municipality, Rukum West: Ward Office and Police Station
  - Nalgad Municipality, Jajarkot: Police Station and Veterinary Service Centre
  - Barekot Rural Municipality, Jajarkot: Agriculture Centre and Veterinary Service Centre
- As part of prefab installation, for the Social and Environmental Screening, UNDP has engaged a consulting form and the Social and Environmental Screening report (draft) has been prepared.
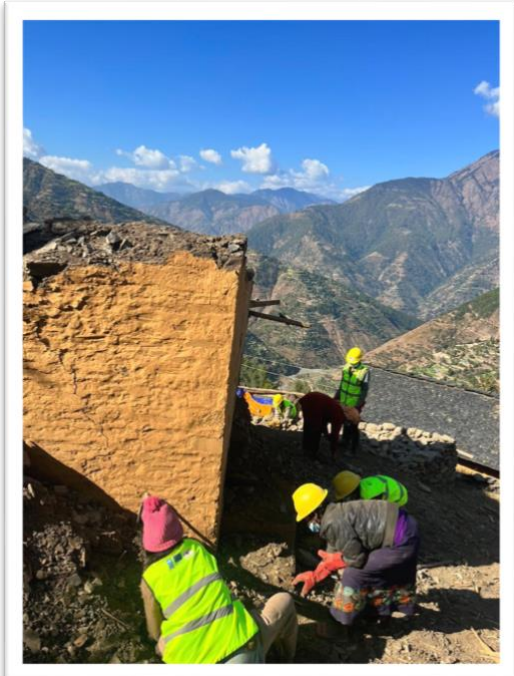
Photo Credit: UNDP Nepal

UNDP Nepal Handed over 40 Temporary Shelters to Bajhang Earthquake-Affected Households in Jayprithvi Municipality

UNDP Nepal handed over 40 temporary shelters in Ward No. 9 & 10 of Jayprithvi Municipality, Bajhang District on December 21, 2023.

Bajhang was affected by a 6.3 magnitude earthquake on 3rd October 2023.

UNDP officially handed over these shelters to community members through the Mayor of Jayprithivi municipality Mr. Chetraj Bajhal.The community members were chosen in collaboration with local officials, focusing on vulnerable groups like single women, women-led families, and the elderly.

Photo Credit: Rishav Nepal, UNDP Nepal

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