

Western Nepal Earthquake 2023

UNDP Update No. 2

12 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

**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

recovery of the need related to last three major earthquakes in Nepal (the Doti 2022, the Bajhang 2023, the Jajarkot 2023 earthquakes). A working committee under National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority's (NDRRMA's) chair has been formed to prepare the preliminary damage and need assessment report.

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

- UNDP, through Handicap International, is providing 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. 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 held 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 Aathbiskot Municipality, 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.
- 9 engineers are on board and are supervising this process and 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

- 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, the Social and Environmental Screening process has started.



Photo Credit: UNDP Nepal

For More Information

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Enhancing Human Security
Through Local Climate Actions
Project



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Strengthening Urban
Preparedness, Earthquake
Preparedness and Response in
Western Regions of Nepal

