Western Nepal Earthquake 2023

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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 |



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. 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 coleadership functions at the national and provincial levels, moving from search and rescue response to recovery and rehabilitation.

^{**}UNDP has been working through the EU Humanitarian Aid funded <u>SUPER</u> project, and the Government of Japan funded Enhancing Human Security through Local Climate Actions <u>project</u>.

¹ UN RC Nepal & UNCT Nepal, 16 Nov 2023

² UN RC Nepal & UNCT Nepal, 16 Nov 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

 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 distributed are as follows:



270 blankets in Nalgad and Barekot



15,000 warm jackets in Nalgad and Barekot



103 tents in Nalgad and Barekot



300 P-Foams in Nalgad and Barekot

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 will compile data and information related to the 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.

Debris Management and Rubble Removal

- 400 HHs in 4 LG including in Aathbiskot Municipality, Bheri Municipality, Nalgad Municipality and Barekot Rural Municipality will be supported to remove the rubble and in debris management.
- 9 engineers will be hired to supervise 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:
 - o Aathbiskot Municipality, Rukum West: Ward Office and Police Station
 - o Nalgad Municipality, Jajarkot: Police Station and Veterinary Service Centre
 - o Barekot Rural Municipality, Jajarkot: Agriculture Centre and Veterinary Service Centre





Photo Credit: UNDP Nepal

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