

# Western Nepal Earthquake 2023

## UNDP Update No.6

22 April 2024



### IMPACT OF THE WESTERN NEPAL EARTHQUAKE\*

6.4

MAGNITUDE  
EARTHQUAKE  
ON 3  
NOVEMBER  
2023  
Earthquake



154

Number of  
Deaths



366

Number of  
People Injured



107,559

Total  
Damaged  
Structures\*\*



USD 518 MILLION

Recovery and  
Reconstruction  
Cost\*



### UNDP INTERVENTIONS

2 DISTRICTS  
5 MUNICIPALITIES  
8 WARDS

Working Area



4,837

No. of  
Households



356,100

People Covered  
(Direct + Indirect)



USD 1.025  
MILLION

Total Budget \*\*\*



UNDP  
GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN  
EU HUMANITARIAN AID

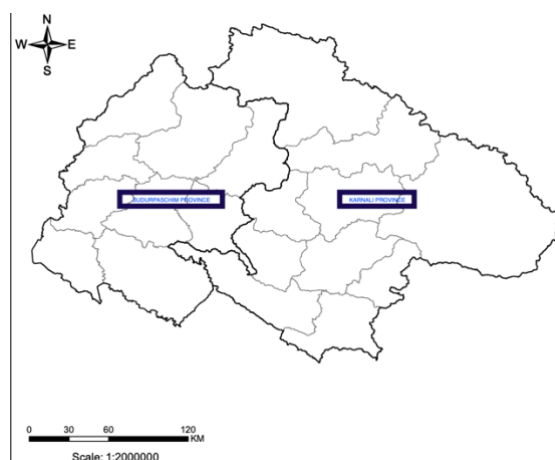
Funding Partners \*\*\*\*

## 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<sup>1</sup>. The current focus of the Government and humanitarian partners remain on building transitional shelters, early recovery interventions and planning and resource mobilization for long-term recovery and reconstruction.

The details of the damage from the earthquakes in Western Nepal - including the Doti 2022, the Bajhang 2023, the Jajarkot 2023 earthquakes - are as follows<sup>2</sup>:

Number of Houses Partially Damaged	61,440 houses
Number of Houses Completely Damaged	34,347 houses
Number of Government and Public Buildings Affected	75 buildings
Number of Health Institutions Fully Damaged	27 institutions
Number of Health Institutions Partially Damaged	106 institutions
Number of Educational Institutions Affected	11,557 institutions



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

\*From the Preliminary Damage and Needs Assessment (PrelmDNA) presentation on 22 December 2023.

\*\* The numbers include HH, govt and public buildings, Health, Education and Cultural buildings

\*\*\*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](#).

<sup>1</sup> UN RC Nepal & UNCT Nepal, 16 Nov 2023

<sup>2</sup> From the Preliminary Damage and Needs Assessment (PrelmDNA) presentation on 22 December 2023. *Housing sub-sector consists of damage data from all 3 earthquakes. Other sub-sectors comprises of data only from Jajarkot and Bajhang Earthquake.*

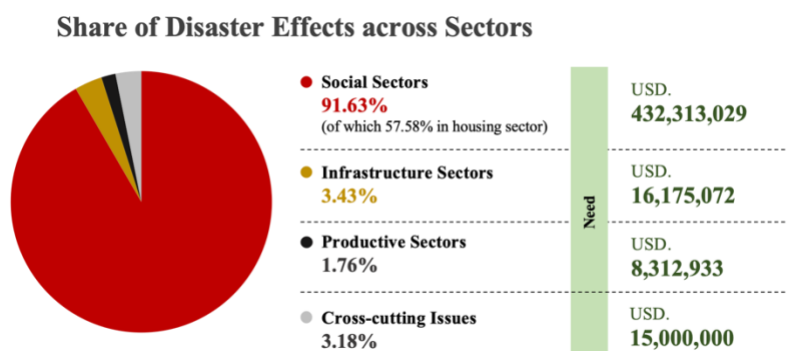
## HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

The Government of Nepal together with development partners responded and undertook search and rescue and immediate relief. The Government also provided free medical treatment to those injured in the earthquake across all hospitals and is planning to provide NPR. 200,000 (\$1,500) to the families of those killed in the earthquake. Clusters led by the government and co-led by the development partners were activated at national and province levels. The relief items ranged from the winterization kit to the tents and from the cash assistance to the food items.

The Government of Nepal is transferring NPR. 50,000 (US\$376) to each household with completely damaged structures, in two tranches The first tranche at the start and the second installment after completion of the temporary shelter are being released. The second tranche will be released after the information is updated on the BIPAD portal. For this, UNDP is deploying people to support with updating the information in the system. UNDP will deploy people in Aathbiskot, Sani Bheri in Rukum West and Barekot, Nalgad and Bheri in Jajarkot. Additionally,<sup>3</sup> UN agencies have strengthened their cluster co-leadership functions at the national and provincial levels. The clusters under the lead of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office have prepared a joint recovery plan entitled 'Western Nepal Earthquake Joint Recovery Plan' with the aim to support continuity of basic services, livelihoods and create an enabling environment for long-term resilient recovery. The priority clusters are in process of rolling out activities identified in the plan.

### Rapid Post Disaster Needs Assessment

The Government of Nepal together with development partners conducted 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 committee under National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority's (NDRRMA's) chair prepared the draft 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 organized the second consultation meeting with development partners and concerned authorities of Government of Nepal on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023. The share of the disaster effects across the Social, Infrastructure, and Productive sectors among other cross-cutting issues were shared in the meeting, demonstrating a need for USD 471 million to the support activities, as well as an additional USD 47.1 million for operational costs<sup>4</sup>:



***Housing sub-sector consists of damage data from all 3 earthquakes: Jajarkot, Bajhang, and Doti as per the PDNA presentation on 22 December 2023.***

<sup>3</sup> UN RC Nepal & UNCT Nepal, 16 Nov 2023

<sup>4</sup> From the Preliminary Damage and Needs Assessment (PrelmDNA) presentation on 22 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 and provincial levels, with the government as the cluster lead, UNDP has been providing the following support:

### *Emergency Relief and Early Recovery Support*

- UNDP, through Handicap International, had provided 700 assistive devices for persons with disabilities in earthquake affected area.
- Agriculture inputs is being provided in Barekot Rural Municipality and Nalgad Municipality, which will contribute to job creation and improve agriculture productivity in the context of climate change. 200 people have been trained on vegetable farming, including smallholders and commercial farmers; and the construction of two poly house is completed in Barekot Rural Municipality.
- UNDP has provided 18,770 relief items in earthquake affected areas and details are below. A beneficiary list was prepared before 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.



### *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. A subsequent meeting of the ERC took place on 1 April 2024. An interactive workshop capturing the lessons learned from the recent disaster response and road ahead for the Early Recovery took place on 23 April 2024.
- 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. The third meeting took place on 4 January 2024, and the fourth meeting took place on 22 March 2024. The meeting decided to share the ER related progress to MoIAL Karnali through DRR Focal Point and to update and generate the outputs and publish them periodically.
- 8 Information Management Officers (IMOs) have completed their assignment at the provincial, district and municipal level, including in Aathiskot Municipality, and Sani Bheri Rural Municipality in Rukum West District; Bheri Municipality in Jajarkot District, and Surkhet District. They provided crucial data and information management support related to earthquake early recovery efforts including data on temporary shelter, particularly by providing regular updates from the local level to the provincial and national level.
- The IMOs also coordinate with the local governments to identify the most vulnerable groups for relief distribution, in earthquake affected areas; and participate in interaction and review meetings of the relief and temporary shelter and reconstruction materials distributed with elected representatives, beneficiaries, and stakeholders at the local level. They are providing technical assistance to local government and district on strengthening of the Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs).
- UNDP deployed personnel to support activities of the Provincial Disaster Management Committee (PDMC), the District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC) and the Local Disaster Management Committee (LDMC).

- 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.
- An initial drone assessment has been carried out by a drone pilot to collect preliminary damage information in Berekot Rural Municipality and Nalgad Municipality.
- UNDP is a member of the preliminary damage and need assessment (PDNA) working committee and provided inputs in its drafting and currently it is under finalization.
- UNDP, as co-lead of early recovery cluster (ERC), has led the preparation of the draft of the joint early recovery cluster response plan, which is part of the *Joint Recovery Plan – Western Nepal Earthquake*. A meeting was held on 1 April 2024 to further prioritize ERC interventions.
- UNDP co-led the drafting of the ERC component of the Monsoon Preparedness and Response Plan (MPRP), 2024.

#### *Debris Management and Rubble Removal*

- Led by engineers, UNDP completed debris removal of 400 HH in Berekot, Nalgad and Bheri Municipalities of Jajarkot district and Aathbiskot Municipality of Rukum West District through cash for work benefitting 800 community members, verified through a QR Code ID system generated to identify the beneficiaries; vulnerable groups such as Dalits, women headed HH have been prioritized.
- 10 engineers also completed their services in the earthquake affected municipalities, overseeing the construction of the temporary shelters, and providing technical support where necessary. They also received training on entering data on the Bipad Portal to release the second tranche for the temporary shelter, based on which they trained other officials in the municipalities on data entry.
- Personal Protective Equipment - including 200 Gum Boots, 200 Safety Helmets, 200 Safety Gloves, 200 Shovels and Cement mixing bowls - were provided to the earthquake affected and used by the beneficiaries during the debris removal work.
- 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 completed assessment of all public buildings, except health and school buildings, in Berekot Rural Municipality and Nalgad Municipality in Jajarkot District: this included 34 buildings from Berekot and 25 buildings from Nalgad. The survey has found that most buildings built with stone with mud mortar have undergone damage while buildings with stone with cement/mud mortar may need to be retrofitted.
- As an interim support, providing seven prefabricated buildings to ensure continuity of public service delivery in three earthquake affected municipalities and one district. These buildings include:
  - District Administration Office, Jajarkot
  - Aathbiskot Municipality, Rukum West: Ward Office and Police Station
  - Nalgad Municipality, Jajarkot: Police Station and Veterinary Service Centre
  - Berekot Rural Municipality, Jajarkot: Agriculture Centre and Veterinary Service Centre
- As part of the prefab installation, the Social and Environmental Screening of all 6 priority public building sites has been conducted by a consulting firm engaged by UNDP.
- UNDP provided two laptops and one printer to the CDO Office in Jajarkot District.
- To mark the Earthquake Safety Day 2024, UNDP supported the local governments by handing over life sized snakes and ladders game to the local governments, replete with information on disaster preparedness measures. The event was held in five earthquake affected municipalities including Nalgad, Berekot, Sani Bheri, Bheri and Aathbiskot of Karnali Province and Jay Prithvi, Dhangadhi and Amargadhi of Sudurpaschim Province.



Ms. Kaushila Nepali using her recently installed mud brick ICS in Bheri.  
 Photo: Ayushma Basnyat, UNDP/SUPER

*Through the “Enhancing Human Security Through Local Climate Actions Project,” UNDP, with generous support from the Government of Japan, has been providing ICS to the earthquake affected families in Jajarkot and Rukum West Districts in Karnali. The project has provided 120 mud brick ICS in Jajarkot and 80 in Rukum West District. It will install 600 sets of metallic ICS in Jajarkot and 300 in Rukum West; as well as 400 sets of solar home system in Jajarkot and 200 sets in Rukum West. Such endeavours will allow people to access renewable energy, benefitting over 1500 households.*

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**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

