



A woman taking home Corrugated Galvanized Iron (CGI) sheets at an IOM shelter distribution in Sindhupalchok District © IOM 2015

## Highlights

- Results of the Return Intentions Survey show that 55% of people in displacement sites intend to return to their areas of origin immediately after the monsoon, while 24% do not know when they will return
- 212 people, including 103 women, have participated in cash-for-work activities in Gorkha and Dolakha districts to date, contributing to rubble and debris removal efforts. In total, 72 severely damaged buildings have been safely demolished.
- Since April 25th, IOM has distributed Shelter and Non Food Items through its network of partners to 148,778 families and 55 schools in 19 districts

## Situation Overview: Return Intentions Survey

The Return Intentions Survey, carried out between 24 June and 12 July, assessed 1,958 households in 104 displacement sites across 13 districts. Overall results show that 55% of displaced persons surveyed intend to return to their areas of origin immediately after the monsoon season. A quarter of people do not know when they will return. However, when looking at the district level this figure is much higher in Sindhupalchok (63%) and Dhading (100%) districts. For many families, the reason hampering return is the destruction of their villages by landslides, cited by 27% of respondents in Dhading, 18% in Gorkha, 17% in Sindhupalchok and 14% in Kathmandu.

The families' displacement is impacting their livelihoods opportunities; 48% report that agriculture was their main source of income before the earthquake, but after the earthquake this remains the case for only 28% of respondents. Over one fifth (21%) of households state that they have no source of income at all. 94% of households report that they have never received training on safe reconstruction, highlighting the need for these trainings for people to safely rebuild their homes when they return.

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The Migration Emergency Funding Mechanism, IOM's internal emergency fund, has been used to support the most urgent needs in the onset of the Nepal Earthquake.



## IOM RESPONSE



### NFI and Shelter

IOM's Shelter experts continue to work with the Shelter Cluster to develop key messages on a range of issues, including safe reuse of materials, safe demolitions and proper use of CGI sheets. **These messages will be disseminated through different channels to ensure they reach the widest possible audience and can empower people to build back safer.**

In Dolokha, IOM and the National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal – a National NGO – are collaborating with the district government on plans to support shelter technical training at various levels. IOM recently conducted a visit to Jiri municipality and Charikot, taking time to assess various levels of building construction, damage, local solutions, and retrofit and repair options. IOM is developing information guides based on the visit to share with partners in the coming weeks.

IOM continues to provide dedicated support to shelter cluster coordination in the six eastern priority districts of Nepal both at the hub level and at district levels as needed. Recent assessment missions by helicopter, 4wd and foot have raised issues of outstanding needs in under-served districts, effectively redirecting millions of dollars' worth of assistance to these needy areas.

**To date, 447,584 NFIs have been transferred to partners through the IOM pipeline. 310,067 items have already reached 148,778 families and 55 schools in 19 districts either directly by IOM or through its network of 41 partners.**



Blanket distribution in Chautara, Sindhupalchok District  
© IOM 2015 (Photo: Helena Pumar Alba)



### Health

IOM medical teams continue to assist vulnerable patients, including the severely injured and disabled, to be discharged from health facilities and transferred either to step-down care, home or to preferred communities. The IOM Assisted Discharge and Referral Service assisted 900 patients to date, including 52 district transfers (outside of Kathmandu valley). In addition, psychosocial assistance has been provided to 90 patients and their families through the service. IOM's capacity to support district transfers remained limited, largely due to funding shortages. Demand for transfers to key affected districts are starting to raise as patients no longer require specialized orthopedic care, only available in Kathmandu, three months after the earthquake.



A patient being transported home with the assistance of IOM's medical team  
© IOM 2015 (Photo: Ashika Singh)

The IOM psychosocial team has provided a half-day training to Noble Compassionate Volunteers (NCV) on Mental Health and Psychosocial Considerations in Camp Management. NCV is a non-profit organization providing coordination support to local camp committees and conducting hygiene promotion in displacement sites in Kathmandu. 18 NCV staff and volunteers completed the training which is based on the Guidelines for Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings (IASC, 2007).

IOM public health focal points are closely monitoring health conditions among IDP populations and working with District Public Health Officers to define health care needs in temporary settlements. IOM continues to support the National TB Centre and this week began tracing of patients requiring follow-up in Sindhupalchowk and Gorkha districts who were not accounted for earlier, and assessment of TB treatment facilities in remote areas.



## IOM RESPONSE



### Camp Coordination and Camp Management

In response to the Government of Nepal's request to reduce services in displacement sites across Kathmandu, the CCCM Cluster has drafted a position paper recommending the authorities to provide clear guidance on the policy to allow for an appropriate response by CCCM partners. This guidance should include information on minimum services to be provided, coordination mechanisms, contingency planning and support for durable solutions.

As part of a global project to increase operational integration between the CCCM and Protection Clusters, and to reduce gender-based violence (GBV) in displacement sites, IOM is planning two trainings in the upcoming week, in collaboration with partners. The trainings will include an introduction to CCCM as well as specific GBV training in relation to the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM). Participants will include IOM staff as well as NGO partners and government representatives. The 4th round of the DTM will be carried out after the training is completed.

**Site Improvement:** New assessments have been carried out across Sindhupalchok district. In Bhimtar (943 IDPs), 3 settlements were found to be in particular unsanitary conditions, with children in particular affected by face infections and coughing. IOM engineers are preparing a plan for intervention, including cleaning up and improving the main road through the site. New assessments are planned in the more remote area of Listikot, but given the difficulty to access the sites, these can take place only when the weather clears up to allow helicopter flights.

The IOM hub in Charikot has been reinforced with two engineers to assess and address the needs in nine key sites identified by DTM staff. The first assessments have taken place and implementation of improvement works is scheduled to start in the coming days. In Dhading district, drainage work



is being carried out and pathways are installed in Alhici Dadha site (1694 IDPs), monitored by one of the IOM engineers. Work has also started at the Gupsipakha site (3040 IDPs) in Gorkha District, where community members and porters are working with mules to transport materials to the hard-to-reach site. Work will include digging drainage, installing pathways and building of common spaces.

In collaboration with All Hands Volunteers, IOM is finalizing work at Chuchepati site (7,144 IDPs), the largest site in Kathmandu, where fencing and common spaces are being finished. At Thali site (220 IDPs) in the capital, drainage work will be conducted and additional needs have been referred to relevant cluster partners for follow-up.

## Back to school

Near the main road in Chautaara, children pour in to the temporary learning centre to start their school day under CGI roofing. Three months ago, the situation was vastly different, as the earthquake that hit Nepal on 25 April flattened SKRG Higher Secondary School in a matter of minutes. A month after the earthquake, IOM demolition experts got to work on clearing the plot of land where the school stood. After a week's work, the land was cleared and ready for a temporary learning centre to be put up by local authorities and NGO partners. The temporary space now hosts the 850 students aged 3 to 17 for their daily classes. As the school principal, Mr. Rajendra Karki, told IOM staff this week, four students and one teacher were killed in the earthquake, and many of the children lost relatives. Given the difficulties many of the students are facing, Mr. Tanka Karki, English teacher at the school, mentioned he is both surprised and proud about the regular attendance levels of the children. However, many of the students have issues concentrating and show signs of psychological distress, highlighting that while learning spaces are rebuilt, the road to recovery remains long.



Children in class in the temporary learning space  
© IOM 2015 (Photo: Helena Pumar Alba)

### Early Recovery



To date, a total of 72 buildings have been demolished by IOM, including 22 private and 50 public buildings. The majority of demolitions have taken place in Sindhupalchok District, but activities are now also scaling up in Gorkha and Dolakha districts. A total of 16,695 cubic metres of rubble has been cleared through these activities. In Gorkha and Dolakha districts, 212 people, including 103 women, from the local community have participated in a cash-for-work scheme. All beneficiaries are provided with protective gear (helmet, gloves, boots) before employment. Together, they have contributed to rubble removal of 11 plots.



Women participating in the cash for work scheme in Dolakha district © IOM 2015 (Photo: Nischal Shrestha)

### Protection



On 22 July, an aftershock with epicenter in Kathmandu brought a number of vulnerable women, that IOM is supporting together with local NGO Shakti Samuha, back to live in the open space that they had left only a few weeks earlier. The strength of the aftershock led the women to leave the buildings where they had been staying, for fear of stronger shocks and further damage. In early June, IOM and Shakti Samuha, a local NGO that works with survivors of trafficking, together identified around 100 vulnerable displaced women and girls in Kathmandu Valley, with urgent humanitarian and protection needs. After the earthquake, these members were living in precarious conditions in the spontaneous displacement sites in Kathmandu Valley. Many of them originate from the 14 affected districts. With generous support of World Bank Group staff, IOM distributed tents, blankets, and NFIs. On 26th July, the tents were set up in Manamaiju, Machhapokhari, and

Gongabu in Kathmandu Valley. Following the visit of IOM's site planning team, site improvement is also being carried out.

In an effort to assess the impact of the earthquake on mobility of affected populations, IOM is looking at the intention of passport applicants at district level. In the absence of alternative livelihoods in affected districts, young men and women in particular constitute a significant proportion among applicants. IOM visited the information desk run by local NGOs at the Chief District Officer's (CDO) office in Chautara, Sindhupalchok district. At district level the CDO office issues passports while local NGO staff provide counseling services to the applicants on the risks of trafficking and unsafe migration as well as the existing government policies on safe migration. They also inform the applicants about the available vocational skills trainings to encourage semi-skilled rather than unskilled migration. IOM interviewed NGO staff and passport applicants who intend to work abroad. Some came back to Nepal after the earthquake to look after their family, but decided to leave again in the absence of alternative livelihoods in their community. IOM is planning to support the efforts of the district authority and NGOs to deliver messages on safe migration as well as risks of human trafficking.

#### IOM APPEAL (USD)

**TOTAL \$39.7 M**

	Camp Coordination and Camp Management	<b>9 M</b>
	Shelter and Non Food Items (NFIs)	<b>23.9 M</b>
	Health and Psychosocial	<b>2.2 M</b>
	Protection	<b>300,010</b>
	Logistics	<b>260,000</b>
	Early Recovery	<b>4 M</b>

**Total received to date: \$16.4 M (41% funded)**

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