



Highlights

Women wait to fill their baskets with donated goods before heading back to their mountain villages outside Baluwa, Gorkha district. © IOM 2015

■ On 12 May, another earthquake of 7.3 magnitude struck Nepal at 12:50 local time. Initial reports indicate that displaced people have fled to the pre-identified Open Spaces that were empty prior to 12 May.

■ Heavy rain fall in Chautara, Sindhupalchowk has further deteriorated living conditions for the displaced population. The humanitarian community has set up temporary shelters that are currently hosting close to 100 people beside the humanitarian hub.

■ Upon the request of the humanitarian community, IOM has assumed the role of district-level Humanitarian Coordinator for Sindhupalchowk.

Situation Overview

On 12 May, another earthquake of 7.3 magnitude struck Nepal at 12:50 local time. The epicentre was in the southeast of Kodari in Sindhupalchowk District, approximately 76 kilometers northeast of Kathmadu. The quake and subsequent aftershocks have caused 24 deaths and 546 injuries (Source: OCHA sitrep, 12 May). Landslides in the mountains have hampered access to the towns, adding further devastation.

A dozen buildings have fallen in Chautara, Sindhupalchowk District and 11 people have died. IOM and other agencies have set up temporary shelters for displaced people beside the humanitarian hub in Chautara. This site is now hosting close to 100 people in a relatively small area.

The earthquake caused some panic and many people fled to the pre-existing, government identified Open Spaces.

On 10 May, heavy rain fall and hail resulted in flooding in Chautara, further increasing health risks for the displaced populations living in makeshift shelters and tents. Continued rains will severely impact the humanitarian community's ability to stockpile and pre-position essential relief items in remote areas.



Displaced population seeking temporary shelter beside the humanitarian hub in Chautara, Sindhupalchowk. © IOM 2015

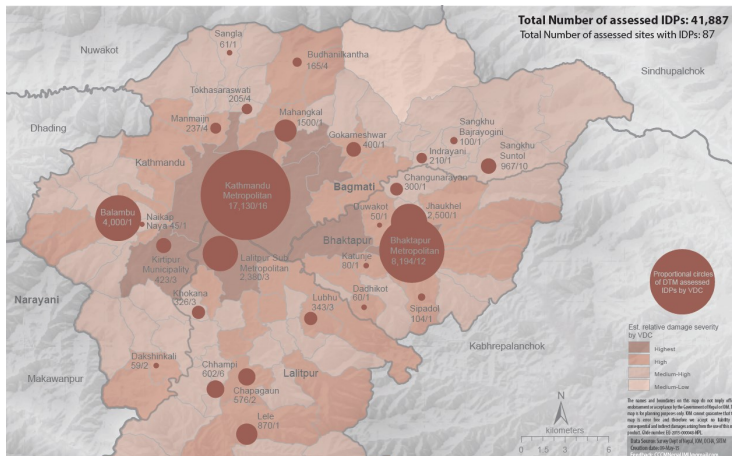
IOM RESPONSE

Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

Preliminary findings from the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) covering 140 sites in Kathmandu Valley (Bhaktapur, Lalitpur and Kathmandu districts) with over 7,522 households (41,887 individuals) were shared with CCCM partners.

Highlights from the preliminary analysis include:

- As of May 11, 87 of the 140 sites assessed remained open, the rest had closed with displaced populations voluntarily leaving the sites.
- In Kathmandu and Lalitpur districts, more than 90% of the sites are perceived by the inhabitants as crowded.
- Sanitation facilities in all sites assessed are below Sphere minimum standards.
- Only 14% of sites have access to either permanent or emergency health services.
- Mosquitos are reported as an issue in displacement sites, with only 11% of sites having access to mosquito nets.
- 70% of sites report not having enough water and shelter along with the required tools for shelter repair.



DTM-assessed Displaced Population by Village Development Committee (VDC) in Kathmandu valley (as of 7 May 2015). © IOM 2015

Following the 12 May earthquake, DTM reports that many of the Government-identified open spaces that were empty before are now hosting displaced populations. It is unclear how long this displaced population will remain in these areas.

IOM is coordinating closely with the Protection Cluster to address identified protection concerns. These concerns include loss of documentation and reported tensions between groups within displacement sites that may impede access to services for some vulnerable groups. IOM and Protection Cluster are collaborating in order to improve protection indicators within the DTM to better inform Protection response in displacement sites.

In Chautara, Sindhupalchowk district, IOM is working closely with other humanitarian partners to provide assistance to the displaced population that has sought temporary shelter near the humanitarian hub.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI) / Pipeline Support

Since the beginning of the crisis, and as pipeline manager for shelter materials and NFIs, IOM has received 9,680 shelter kits and 1,554 solar lamps donated by DFID and 700 plastic rolls by USAID. These essential relief items have been transported to affected areas where shelter partners facilitated the distribution to vulnerable populations.

Health and Psychosocial Assistance

IOM has started providing earthquake-injured patients with assisted discharge support. This important intervention connects injured persons with support following their initial treatment, including follow up, rehabilitation and assistance to return home. Over 16,000 people have been injured following the earthquake and there are thought to be at least 1,000 patients with severe injuries that were evacuated to Kathmandu. Securing funding to effectively address the needs of this vulnerable group is a crucial priority.

On 10 May, IOM medical teams visited two hospitals in Kathmandu to assist with discharge and referral services. In Bir Hospital Trauma Center, IOM assessed four patients and assisted three patients to return to their respective residences. The last patient has been unable to return as his home outside Kathmandu Valley remains inaccessible. IOM is working with trauma centers on a daily basis to identify patients in need of support. A hotline has also been established that patients can contact for discharge and referral assistance.

IOM has distributed over 100 clean delivery kits to pregnant women and village health workers in Sindupalchowk and Gorkha districts. These kits provide the basic tools that help reduce the risk of infections associated with childbirth for mothers and new-borns.

As part of overall efforts in preparation for the upcoming monsoon season, IOM is working with WHO and UNICEF on a cholera risk analysis in support of the Nepal Ministry of Health and Population. DTM data, as well as information from ongoing public health assessments are being used to inform the analysis.



Health check – IOM's Dr. Kreshan performs basic medical check-ups in remote parts of Gorkha district. © IOM 2015

Providing psychosocial assistance to the affected population also remains a key priority for the humanitarian community. With recurring aftershocks and subsequent earthquakes, the need for this type of support is further increasing as fears intensify among the affected population. IOM has provided emergency psychosocial awareness training for 25 officials from the National Mental Health Hospital who are now being deployed to the field to provide psycho-social assistance

earthquake survivors. In line with this, 200 copies of the Nepali translated IASC Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings were distributed. These guidelines will provide support to mental health workers who are assisting earthquake survivors. Many of these workers had not had experience with emergency trauma support prior to the earthquake, making the guidelines all the more critical.

Ruined village opposite Baluwa, Gorkha district is only accessible by a swing bridge above the deep ravine. © IOM 2015



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

