

# NEPAL EARTHQUAKE IOM EMERGENCY RESPONSE

SITUATION REPORT • 2 July 2015



- In addition to public buildings, IOM has begun to support debris management and demolition for unsafe or damaged, privately owned buildings in Chautara.
- IOM's DTM teams are rolling out a household level Return Intentions Survey, and have completed data collection from 30 displacement sites in Kathmandu Valley.
- From 22-30 June, 1,000 families in Safru and Dhunche (Rasuwa district) and 1,405 families in Lamidanda (Dolakha district) received CGI sheets, with the support of implementing partners. A total of 6,044 families have received IOM-procured CGIs to date.

# **Situation Overview: Return Intentions Survey**

A household-level Return Intentions Survey is being rolled out by IOM across affected districts, targeting a total of 5,169 families, representing 23% of the total number of displaced people. Preliminary results from data collection in the Kathmandu Valley – covering a total of 631 households in 30 displacement sites – suggest that the main reasons preventing families from returning at this stage are that their house is completely destroyed (68%), fear of further damage/danger of future earthquakes (12%) and a lack of financial means (8%). 75% of those assessed plan to return immediately after the monsoon season.

An international conference on 25 June raised two-thirds of the USD 6.66 billion sought by the Government of Nepal for the reconstruction efforts. The Return Intentions Survey findings also give an indication of families' own approach regarding the repair of their homes. 41% said that they planned to begin repair work over a year from now and 24% between 6-12 months from now, suggesting that a majority remain focused on preparations to withstand the monsoon and winter. 60% said that they would count primarily on humanitarian assistance to repair/rebuild, 11% would use savings, 7% loans, 5% remittances from inside Nepal and 3% remittances from abroad.

#### **IOM RESPONSE**

# Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

IOM continues to conduct site assessments to identify engineering and design interventions that will improve existing conditions in temporary displacement sites, reducing risks of environmental hazards, improving accessibility and movement, and creating common spaces. Work on these improvements is beginning in six different sites this week – three in Kathmandu, one in Bhaktapur, one in Gorkha, and one in Sindhupalchok – and is expected to take up to three weeks for completion in most sites.

On 30 June, IOM began collaborating with Kathmandu University to provide additional engineering capacity for assessing possible contingency displacement sites in northern Village Development Committees (VDCs) for Sindhupalchok. The assessments will continue for the next two weeks. These assessments are part of ongoing efforts to support to the Government to identify open spaces for potential new sites as part of monsoon contingency planning, in collaboration with the Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Shelter clusters.

On 26 June, the CCCM cluster held a site management training session, attended by 24 participants, including cluster partners currently active in site management activities, those with intention to get involved, IOM staff, and a participant from the Department of Urban Development & Building Construction (DUDBC). Four IOM hub coordinators are now in place for Gorkha, Kathmandu, Chautara and Sindhuli/Kavre. The cluster is looking to identify district focal points as well as additional partners for site management.

In the coming weeks IOM will continue to roll both the Return Intentions Survey and a third round of the Displacement

Trackings Matrix, which will focus on temporary displacement sites of 20 or more households.

# Early Recovery / Debris Removal

In Chautara, IOM has begun providing debris management for privately owned buildings, in support of local authorities, following the finalization of relevant governmental guidelines. One such building collapsed overnight last week after being destabilized by heavy rains, highlighting the urgency of this work. IOM teams were on hand to help with clearing debris from the road, and have since begun work on demolishing the building to ensure that it is safe, while helping the owners salvage reusable materials. This work will expand in the coming weeks, supported by seconded experts from the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) and Disaster Waste Recovery. To date, IOM has demolished and/or cleared 36 structures that are part of 18 different local government departments and school premises in Chautara, all while generating employment through cash-for-work modalities.

Debris management and removal work is also ongoing in Gorkha, where 27 individuals (8 male, 19 female) have received temporary employment to help clear the Durbar site, Gorkha Municipality office and the District Administrative Office. A total of 213 cubic metres of rubble have so far been removed.

The District Disaster Relief Committee (DDRC) in Dolakha district is also seeking urgent assistance with demolishing hazardous buildings in Charikot. IOM demolition experts have visited the sites for a preliminary assessment and will be deployed there next week to commence operations.



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

IOM continues to distribute shelter items in coordination with a range of implementing partners, to support earthquake affected households' reconstruction efforts and protect them from monsoon rains. This includes a range of different materials (CGI sheets as well as shelter kits and bamboo poles), depending on the key needs identified by partners on the ground. From 22-30 June CGI sheets were distributed to 1,000 households in Safru and Dhunche (Rasuwa district) and to 1,405 households in Lamidanda (Dolakha district). In addition, 750 shelter kits were distributed to beneficiaries in Khotang, Kathmandu, Syangja, Bhaktapur and Sindhuli and 750 bamboo poles were delivered to Chautara, in coordination with the Local Development Office, in part to help build stores for emergency food. To date IOM and partners have delivered shelter and NFI items to over 42,460 vulnerable families across 11 districts.

To help ensure a continuum of support for most vulnerable families between emergency relief and permanent reconstruction, IOM is developing a set of technical guidance and knowledge-transfer tools, that will assist families in maintaining, repairing and upgrading their temporary shelters, while also contributing to the safe repair or reconstruction of their homes. This guidance will embrace the incremental approach to construction used by most rural families, and to the degree possible, will support initiatives



like the recovery and re-use of rubble from the old houses, in order to minimize the impact upon the environment.

#### **Protection**

To address and mitigate the risk of human trafficking and unsafe migration in the post-earthquake setting, IOM's Protection team launched a joint initiative in collaboration with AWO International, and 2 local NGO's, Pourakhi Nepal and Maiti Nepal. The roll-out of new Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials was announced at a press conference at Union House in Kathmandu on 25 June.

The event highlighted IOM's global efforts to reduce the vulnerability of affected populations to the risk of human trafficking in natural disaster and conflict situations and addressed the challenges the protection team is facing in Nepal when implementing counter-trafficking activities, such as the challenge of consolidated data collection. The joint initiative promotes key messages on the risks of human trafficking and unsafe migration, as well as information on available support services, and expands on work done by IOM's counter-trafficking programme before the 25 April earthquake, in close collaboration with the Government of Nepal.

### Health

Since 10 May, IOM has been working to strengthen assisted discharge and referral systems in order to decongest hospitals, assist step-down care facilities and provide healthy return options for injured and vulnerable patients. Patients are receiving assistance in gaining access to rehabilitation centres, medical services and emergency shelter support where needed. IOM is also providing psychosocial assistance (one-on-one and group counselling) to patients where there is an identified need. Three medical teams have assisted 500 patients with discharge from the hospitals and to attend follow-up care. Tertiary and step-down-care facilities in the Kathmandu Valley currently have capacity for all patients requiring in-patient care. Many patients have decided to delay returning to their districts of residence for fear of landslides, and limited shelter options and specialist care available.

IOM health focal points are also closely monitoring health conditions among IDP populations and coordinating resource mobilisation with local partners on the ground. This includes close collaboration with DTM teams in key districts.

IOM operations are supported by:















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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.

