

SITUATION REPORT • 8 May 2015



Highlights

Displaced people living in make-shift shelters in Sindhupalchowk. (photo: IOM Nepal)

- To date, 5,602 families received IOM shelter kits in the most affected areas around Kathmandu.

- IOM has been appointed Shelter cluster lead in Sindhupalchowk, under IFRC's overall country leadership of the Shelter Cluster.

- As reports of devastation arrive from more remote areas, humanitarian actors are scaling up operations outside of Kathmandu.

Situation Overview

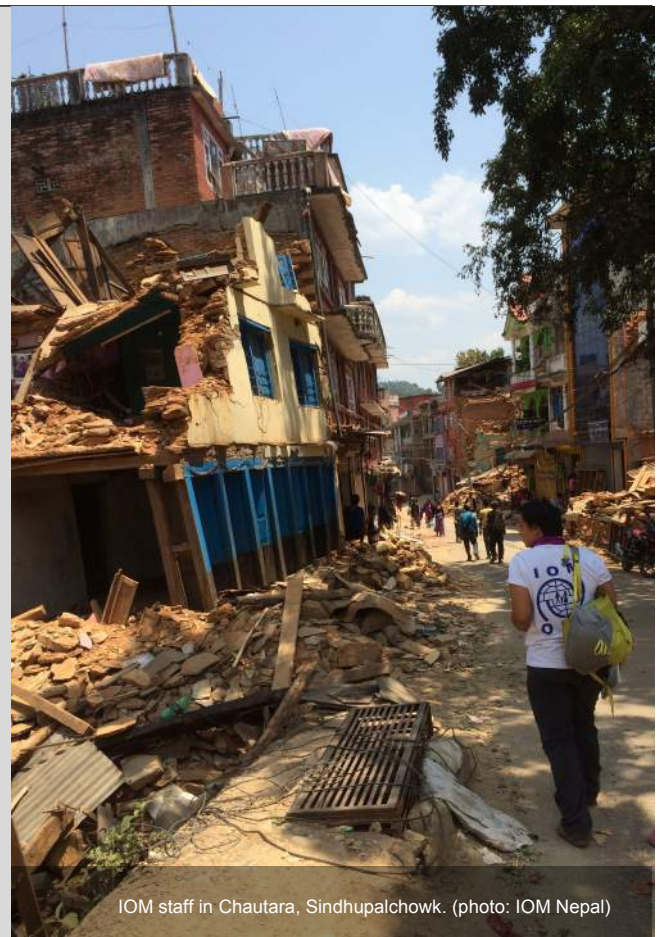
According to the Government's latest figures, the earthquake has left 7,675 people dead and more than 16,392 injured. The National Emergency Operations Center (NEOC) reports over 284,455 destroyed houses and 234,102 damaged houses across the 39 affected districts.

The highest rates of destruction and damage to housing are reported in the districts of Sindhupalchowk, Gorkha, Nuwakot, Ramechhap and Dhading. In Sindhupalchowk, the level of damage is said to significantly increase with altitude. Most houses in the area were built of stone and mud plaster and were destroyed by the earthquake. Reports indicate that many families are still living outside their homes in makeshift shelters.

Ensuring that adequate support reaches those in need before the monsoon season remains a top priority for the humanitarian community. Securing the pipelines and prepositioning of relief items is critical.

The two humanitarian hubs in Gorkha and Chautara are now operational. They were set up to provide the necessary platforms for coordination, communications, operational planning and assistance provision. Three more will be established in Kavre, Chitwan and Parsa shortly.

The recently revised inter-agency flash appeal is funded at 5 per cent, according to [UNOCHA FTS](#). IOM's revised requirements amount to USD 32.2 million.



IOM staff in Chautara, Sindhupalchowk. (photo: IOM Nepal)

IOM RESPONSE

Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

IDPs have sought refuge either in Open Spaces previously identified as per the CCCM contingency plan or in spontaneous sites. The vast majority remain dispersed within their areas of residence.

As the structural assessments of houses have just begun and the tremors have subsided, some people are starting to return home. However, the humanitarian community anticipates that return will not be possible for many of those that have been displaced as their homes have been completely destroyed. The majority of IDPs both in the urban and rural areas are living in dire conditions in makeshift shelters.

Village Development Committees (VDCs) in some of the affected districts have reported to IOM assessment teams and other humanitarian partners that aid has not yet reached their areas. As a result, secondary displacement is occurring with large numbers of people negotiating for land and resettling in other areas. Initial reports indicate that many of these areas where displaced populations are temporarily resettling are at risk to other natural hazards.

The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) has been rolled in Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Bhaktapur and Sindhupalchowk with the objective of gathering information on mobility patterns and conditions in displacement locations. The first data set, containing profiles for 42 locations has been published and shared with humanitarian partners. Eleven DTM teams are currently deployed and working in close coordination with the government to gather and validate displacement data.

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

Upon the request of IFRC, the overall Shelter Cluster Lead in country, IOM has assumed the role of sector lead in Sindhupalchowk. With a strong presence in the area, IOM aims to establish an effective coordination mechanism to ensure rapid distribution of relief items and provision of adequate services to the affected populations.

IOM has expanded its offices in the Kathmandu airport. Three teams work to ensure the efficient processing of incoming relief items and their release to shelter partners for onward distribution in coordination with the local authorities.

To date, 5,602 families have benefitted from a combination of shelter kits, tarps and solar lamps donated by DFID and USAID. As pipeline manager for shelter materials and NFIs, IOM received the goods and transported them to affected areas where shelter partners facilitated the distribution to vulnerable populations. Overall, the turnover from receiving

goods in country to deploying goods to distribution sites averages 18 hours.

Health

IOM medical teams report acute needs for post-surgery assistance and improvement of hospital discharge mechanisms. These include: the establishment of referrals, the provision of transport for patients with spinal cord injuries to the spinal rehabilitation centre outside of Kathmandu, physiotherapy, and other critical follow up medical support. In addition, all teams report urgent need for psychosocial assistance for traumatized earthquake survivors. An IOM Emergency Health Expert is in country to support national authorities in addressing gaps and ensuring adequate emergency health services are available.



USAID Tarps received by IOM in Dhading district. (photo: ACTED)

All field teams report urgent need for psychosocial assistance for traumatized earthquake survivors.

"I have met many people, especially in the camps, who are suffering not only from the loss of their house, their livelihoods and their loved ones, but they are also still suffering from the effects of the earthquake. One lady heard there was a doctor visiting the site and she brought her neighbour to see me. Since the earthquake, this woman has been suffering from dizziness, chest pains, anxiety and fearful feelings. Every time there is an aftershock, the feelings get worse. She was too afraid to go back to her home or to a camp and was sleeping outside of her house in a makeshift shelter. Her husband was away and she did not feel safe. Every time she tries to go back to her house the feelings worsened. There are many people like this. I have heard children saying "Daddy daddy, please can we sleep outside. The crack in the house is scaring us too much". Even those who still have their house are afraid and having symptoms of distress." IOM staff member

As a member of the Global Reference Group for Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings, IOM is addressing psychosocial needs of earthquake affected populations. The sheer scale of the earthquake and level of destruction, compounded by over 100 aftershocks, has manifested in many ways both physical and psychological. While there are strong social and family networks in Nepal, these coping structures have been overwhelmed and millions of people have been affected. IOM is working with local and international partners to provide psychosocial support as well as to promote psychosocial humanitarian assistance.

IOM operations are supported by :



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

