

**LOCATION:** Kathmandu, Nepal**DATE:** 03 May 2015**Situation Overview**

- A powerful 7.8 M earthquake struck Nepal on 25 April, approximately 81km from the capital Kathmandu in an area between the capital and the city of Pokhara.
- Following initial assessments, the Government has extended the most affected areas to include Makawanpur and Sindhuli districts, in addition to Bhaktapur, Dhading, Dolakha, Gorkha, Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Lamjung, Rasuwa, Ramechhap, Nuwakot, and Sindupalchowk.
- Relief efforts continue to focus on reaching a greater number of areas, in particular the remote and hard-to-reach areas where many of the poorest and most affected remain.
- Access to some remote villages remains a key challenge and some can only be accessed by helicopter.
- Most major roads in the country are open. Road access to heavily affected Village Development Committees (VDCs) is open via the following routes:
  - Gorkha: The road from Gorkha District Headquarters to Arughat (Arupokhari VDC) is operational (distance 43 km). The road from Arughat to Soti Khola (Lapu VDC) is also now open.
  - Northern Nuwakot / Dhading: The gravel road from Trisuli / Bidur (Nuwakot district headquarters) to Kimtang VDC is in good condition and passable for heavy trucks. From Kimtang VDC, heavily affected VDCs of northern Dhading, Satyadevi and Darkha, are accessible on foot. The distance from Trisuli to Kimtang VDC is 35 km. Kathmandu-Trisuli is 85 km by paved road in good condition.
  - Dolakha: the main road via Khadichaur, Sindhupalchowk, Mude, Charikot and Mainapokhari to Jiri is open.
- The following closures are reported:
  - Sindhupalchok: Araniko highway between Bahrabise and Tatopani.
  - Sindhupalchok: the road between Kathmandu and Melamchi is obstructed by landslide at Tipeni Bazar, 9 km before Melamchi.
  - Dolakha: Charikot to Lamabagar VDC.
  - Bhaktapur: Roads inside the main city are obstructed due to debris but are likely to be cleared by evening of 3 May.

**Air Transport and cargo handling**

- On 03 May, the UNHAS Mi8 helicopter has transported 9.5 mt of WFP food and IOM shelter items to Dhunche.
- A UNHRD flight with cargo from ADRA (15 mt), Plan International (10 mt) and Welthungerhilfe (9.2 mt) landed on 03 May in Kathmandu. The humanitarian relief is currently being stored at the HSA before being dispatched tomorrow, 04 May.
- IOM has made two tractors and two forklifts available for use by the Logistics Cluster, on behalf of the humanitarian community; this will help ease the movement of cargo from the airport to Humanitarian Staging Assessment (HSA) yard.

- DFID has donated airport handling equipment to facilitate the offloading of humanitarian cargo from aircraft arriving which will be managed by the Logistics Cluster. Airport equipment arrived on 02 May and includes one K-loader, two 4x4 forklift trucks, one high capacity forklift and one telehandler.
- The DHL Disaster Response Team (DRT) and cargo handlers are working together and supporting swift cargo movement from the airport apron to the Humanitarian Staging Area (HSA).

### Logistics hubs and storage

- The HSA, connected directly to the apron of the Tribhuvan International Airport (KTM) is fully operational and already receiving government and humanitarian organisations' relief supplies. Free shunting services have been made available from the airport apron to the HSA.
- The HSA has been fully established and includes eight Mobile Storage Units (MSUs).
- Between 27 April and 03 May, WFP has handled over 3,000 m<sup>3</sup> of humanitarian cargo at the HSA for around 30 organisations.
- Five additional logistics hubs are being established in Deurali (Ghorka district), Dhulikhel (Kavre district), Bharatpur, Pochara, and Birganji (at the Nepali/Indian border).
- Four MSUs have been delivered to the Deurali hub to increase storage capacity.
- Several organizations expressed an interest in setting up MSU, as their MSUs are pending arrival. So far, WFP, as lead agency of the Logistics Cluster, has loaned two temporarily, pending replenishment from the organizations.
- To avail of transport and storage services please note the Service Request Form (SRF) is available at: <http://www.logcluster.org/document/nepal-service-request-srf>.

### Land Transport

- A fleet of 25 trucks (10 to 15 MT capacity) has been contracted by WFP for use by the humanitarian community. The trucks will be used to move cargo out of the HSA to various locations in Nepal.
- On 03 May, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the road transport of 30 truck rotations on WFP trucks from the HSA to various destinations. Transport of the humanitarian items including shelter, WASH and health relief items was carried out on behalf of over 30 organisation.

### Coordination/Information Management/GIS

- To maximise the use of military air assets in relief activities, the Logistics Cluster will liaise with National Authorities to coordinate civil-military interaction with national and international military entities. The Logistics Cluster will focus primarily on logistics and operational coordination.
- A Logistics Cluster Cell has been established in Kathmandu, including dedicated Coordination, Information Management, Operation and Cargo Tracking officers.
- Updated logistics information and maps are shared via the Logistics Cluster Nepal Operation website: <http://logcluster.org/ops/nepal> and via a dedicated mailing list (to sign up, visit: <http://lists.logcluster.org/mailman/listinfo/nepal.logs>).

### Customs

- Out of 90 participants present at the logistics coordination meeting which took place on 02 May, none reported issues related to customs.

- A Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) representative has advised that customs offices will be open daily including weekends and that Government to Government, UN, IFRC and Red Cross cargo is exempt from customs duties and procedures.
- Contact details of customs focal points at the India-Nepal road border crossings point (Mechi/Kakarvitta, Biratnagar, Birganj) have been shared through the Logistics Cluster website <http://www.logcluster.org/nepal> and on the Nepal Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA) <http://dlca.logcluster.org/display/DLCA/4.2.1+Nepal+Government+Contact+List>.
- Updated customs contact information and a customs snapshot is also available on the Logistics Cluster website: <http://www.logcluster.org/document/nepal-customs-snapshot-3May>.

#### Other Logistics Gaps or Bottlenecks

- Incoming international cargo should be palletised or crated so it can be moved onto cargo dollies quicker, can be stored easier and to pushed out onto trucks.
- Although major roads are reported to be accessible, the status of secondary and tertiary roads in many of the regions affected is unclear and air assets may be required to support access to rural areas. Organisations are requested to share information on road blockages and constraints. Maps will be shared as soon as available.

#### Contacts:

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