On 25 April 2015, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal causing severe destruction in 14 out of the 75 districts in the country. Two weeks later, on 12 May, another quake of M7.3 hit, worsening the humanitarian situation. A total of 8,891 people were confirmed dead, 605,000 houses destroyed and 288,000 damaged. During the height of the emergency, some 189,000 people were displaced.

Overview
Nepal remains a priority country for emergency response preparedness within the Asia-Pacific region given its high risk to natural hazards. The country’s mountainous terrain poses significant logistical challenges to access and deliver relief to remote areas.

Since 2005, around 35 disaster events (floods, landslides and earthquakes) affected about 7.8 million people and caused over 10,000 deaths, mostly by the 2015 Gorkha earthquake. Nepal is also vulnerable to slow-onset disasters. In 2016 the Karnali region experienced drought resulting in 150,000 people requiring food assistance.

The Gorkha earthquake 2015
M7.8 8,891

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Disaster Risk Index 2017
Based on risk analysis of historical events, Nepal is highly exposed to earthquakes.

EARTHQUAKE 9.9  FLOOD 6.5  TSUNAMI 0  TROPICAL CYCLONE 0.2  DROUGHT 2.9  HUMAN 5

Key Figures
28.5 million population (2015)

51% Female
49% Male

25.2% poverty headcount ratio at national poverty lines (% of population 2010)

23% of all disasters in Nepal are landslides (between 1970 and 2015)

US$732 Low income GDP per capita (2015)