

LOCATION: Kathmandu, Nepal**DATE:** 2 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 areas remains a key challenge. Road access is limited and some remote villages can only be reached by helicopter. In addition, many landing zones are unsafe due to debris, high altitude and poor weather conditions.
- Most major roads in the country are open and road access to heavily affected Village Development Committee (VDCs) is possible via the following routes:
 - 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).
- The following road closures are reported:
 - Sindhupalchok: Araniko highway between Bahrabise and Tatopani.
 - Sindhupalchok: the road between Kathmandu and Melamchi is obstructed by a landslide at Tipeni Bazar, 9 km before Melamchi.
 - Nuwakot / Rasuwa: Trisuli / Bidur to Dhunche: It is anticipated that this road will be re-opened by the evening of 3 May.
 - Dolakha: Charikot to Lamabagar VDC

Storage

- The Humanitarian Staging Area (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.
- Two additional Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) have been erected and a total of eight are now fully operational at the HSA. The facilities are available for temporary storage only.
- Between 30 April and 1 May, WFP has handled over 2,000 m³ of humanitarian cargo for around 30 organisations at the HSA.

- The establishment of five additional logistics hubs in various locations (such as Deurali (Ghorka district), Dhulikhel (Kavre district), Bharatpur, Pochara, and Birganji (at the Nepali/Indian border) is underway.
- Several organizations have expressed an interest in erecting MSUs, as their MSUs are yet to arrive. 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 2 May, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the road transport of humanitarian relief via 25 WFP trucks from the HSA to Kathmandu, Tinthana, Jbjibe (Rasuwa District), Kalimati, Banepa (Kavre District) and other destinations. Cargo including shelter, wash and health relief items were transported on behalf of the humanitarian community.

Coordination/Information Management/GIS

- The third Logistics Cluster meeting to take place since the start of the response was held on 2 May at the HAS, attended by around 80 representatives from over 50 organisations.
- 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.

Customs

- Updated customs contact information and a customs snapshot is available on the Logistics Cluster website: www.logcluster.org/ops/nepal.

Other Logistics Gaps or Bottlenecks

- Difficulties have been reported in obtaining landing permits for KTM airport, but an increasing number of humanitarian charter flights are accessing slots.
- 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 have been requested to share any information on road blockages and constraints. Maps will be shared as soon once available.

Contacts:

Baptiste Burgaud

Logistics Cluster Coordinator

baptiste.burgaud@wfp.org

Chiara Argenti

Information Management Officer

chiara.argenti@wfp.org