

LOCATION: Kathmandu, Nepal**DATE:** 12 May 2015**Situation Update**

- An earthquake registering 7.3 magnitude struck today (12 May) at 12:50 local time (UTC +5:45). The epicentre was southeast of Kodari (Sindhupalchowk District), 76 km northeast of Kathmandu – an area already affected by the 25 April quake.
- Additional aftershocks ranging from 5.0-7.3 magnitude have occurred afterwards within 35 km of Kodari and a 6.3 magnitude one with the epicentre in Ramechhap District.
- Landslides were reported in Langtang Region in the Himalayas.
- The area affected by the earthquake is prone to landslides which may further blocking roads and making transport difficult.
- Kathmandu International Airport (KTM) suspended operations immediately after the earthquake to assess the status of the tarmac. At 15:05 Nepal local time air operations resumed as normal.
- As soon as KTM airport re-opened, a UNHAS helicopter took off to the affected area with an assessment team to evaluate the impact of the earthquake.
- Phone lines in Kathmandu are congested but functioning.

Road access constraints

- In Sindhupalchok, the road from Chautara to Dolalghat (and onwards to Kathmandu) has been reported open. Blockages were reported between Dolalghat to Charikot. Assessments are on-going.
- The DfID/ GIZ Risk Management Office provided an update on the three road access constraints below:
 - The Banepa Bardibas (B.P.) Koirala Highway, connecting Bardibas, Mahottari to Banepa, Kavre district – Kathmandu. The road is reported to be fractured in the Sindhuli-Nepalthok section of the road (54 km). Debris is also reported from landslide in different places of the road section.
 - The road connecting Tamakoshi to Milti Mkola in Dolakha district has been reported closed due to debris fall from landslide at Bhirkot Village Development Committee (VDC), Dolakha district.
 - The Arniko highway connecting Kathmandu to Kodari, Tatopani VDC, Sindhupalchowk district has been reported closed due to debris fall from landslide at Kharidhunga, Lakuridada, Dolakha district.
- The following general logistics planning maps, providing an overview of the areas mentioned above are available on the website for Sindhupalchok: <http://www.logcluster.org/map/nepal-general-logistics-planning-map-sindhupalchok-district-may-2015> and Dolakha: <http://www.logcluster.org/map/nepal-general-logistics-planning-map-dolakha-district-may-2015>.

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