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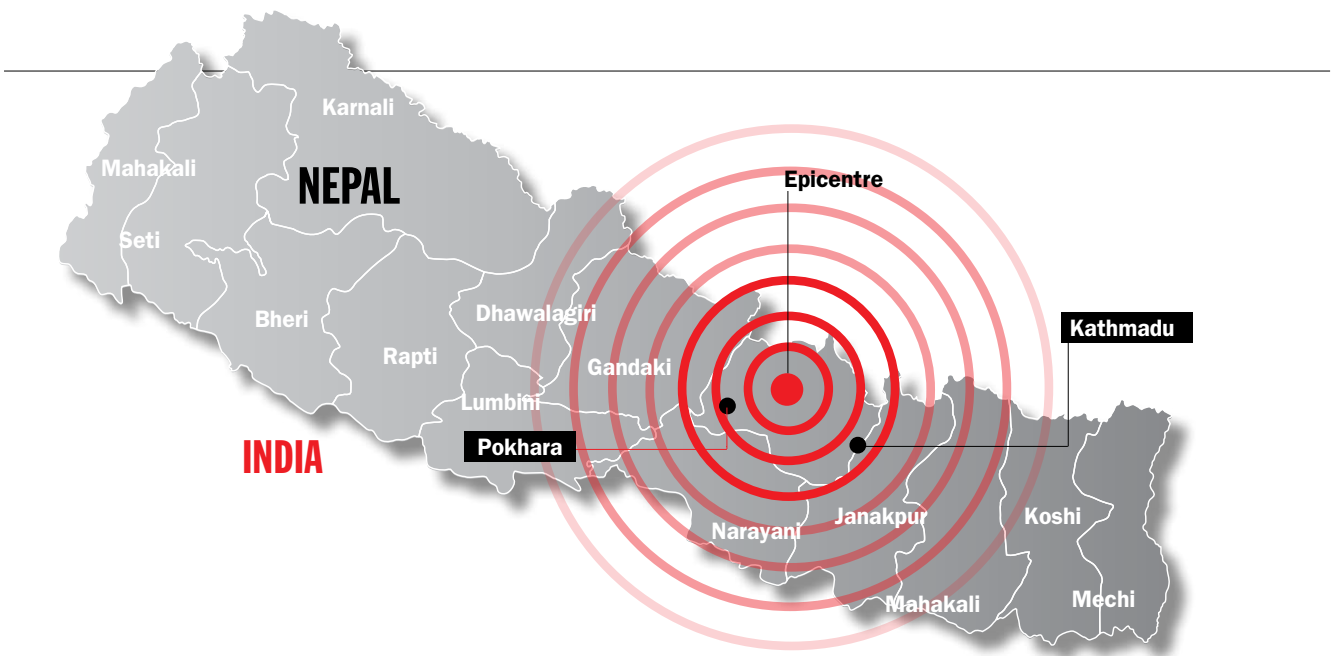
World Vision



NEPAL EARTHQUAKE APPEAL ONE YEAR ON



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On 25 April 2015 a huge earthquake, with a magnitude of 7.8, hit the Nepalese countryside around 50 miles from the capital Kathmandu. It was the worst earthquake to hit Nepal for 80 years. It was followed by a second earthquake two weeks later.

8,891 people were killed and over 22,300 people were injured in the disaster. Over 890,000 homes were destroyed or damaged, as were schools, clinics, temples and ancient buildings. **In total, 8.1 million people were affected across Nepal.**

In the face of such tragedy, the global community united, and when your help was needed most, you gave with extraordinary generosity. Thank you from the DEC, our member agencies, and the people whose lives were saved and changed for the better because of your remarkable support. Together we raised an incredible £87m for the Nepal Earthquake Appeal, with £55m being given to the DEC itself, and £32m given directly to our 13 member agencies.

In the first 6 months of the response, our members reached over 1.64 million people using DEC funds. They have provided essential aid including emergency shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene resources, food, seed stock replenishment, and cash. Now, 12 months on from the devastating earthquakes, members are continuing their work to rebuild lives and livelihoods in Nepal.

READY TO RESPOND

As we launched our appeal, survivors in Nepal were being pulled out of the rubble by loved ones and rescue workers, getting those who were injured medical attention, and comforting those who were under severe stress from the disaster.

11 of our members have long term programmes in Nepal and so were able to begin work immediately when the earthquake hit, with the final 2 members starting emergency programmes in response.



WOMENS' FRIENDLY SPACE

Representatives from the DEC, Action Aid and British Airways visit a Women Friendly Space constructed with the help of Action Aid in Badikhel, a village near to Kathmandu that was hit hard during the April 25 earthquake in 2015.

This is a safe space for women to share experiences, address the issues they face, learn new things, and report domestic violence. This space has given local women huge confidence, helping them to feel safe and supported. Some women have learned to read and write, they share useful health tips, and have welcomed guest speakers to talk about women's rights and other topical issues.

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED TOGETHER

In the first six months of the response, from May – October 2015, our 13 member agencies and their partners reached over 1.64 million people thanks to your support of the DEC appeal.



Shelter

With so many homes destroyed, over the first six months DEC funds were used in the large part to provide emergency shelter kits (tarpaulins and ropes) and more durable solutions (corrugated galvanised iron sheeting and tools), as well as cash grants for rebuilding where local markets could cope with demand. These solutions have reached 640,000 people, and have been accompanied in many cases by training on safer construction methods, effective building techniques and masonry, increasing beneficiaries' ability to construct their own homes, both temporary and permanent.



Water and sanitation

Where water sources were damaged, DEC members have provided trucked water in the short term, and have rehabilitated and constructed new water points. Over 233,000 people have gained or regained access to safe drinking water through water point reconstruction and installed purification units. Members have constructed over 4,500 latrines, including both emergency and long-term facilities. They have also distributed over 12,000 jerry cans and 26,000 hygiene kits to families, and engaged communities with good hygiene practices.



Cash grants

Distributing cash grants is a key part of most member agencies' work in Nepal, using a variety of methods to deliver cash safely and effectively, including using mobile phones and working closely with Nepalese banks. Over 90,000 people have received unconditional cash transfers, enabling them to meet their immediate needs and

restore livelihood options, without resorting to harmful coping strategies. Cash for work programmes have paid people to remove rubble and repair infrastructure, including irrigation canals.



Food and household items

DEC member agencies distributed over 48,000 food parcels, benefiting over 135,000 people, which contained essentials like rice, lentils and cooking oil. They also provided solar lamps, kitchen utensils and cooking pots. These distributions only took place for the first three months of the response, as after that cash grants and functioning markets meant households could buy their own food and other items.



Health

The earthquake damaged or destroyed many health posts, and people's health was further put at risk by displacement, overcrowding (in camps or homes), poor sanitation and food insecurity. DEC member agencies provided temporary health facilities, essential medicines and treatment for malnourished children. Members also ran counselling sessions and provided psycho-social support for people traumatised by the disaster.



Livelihoods

The earthquake devastated food stocks, which are usually stored by families in their houses. Crops were destroyed and planting disrupted. Member agencies concentrated on providing seeds, tools and other agricultural goods, as well as grain storage facilities which protected crops from the monsoon rains.



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REBUILDING COMMUNITIES

In the bright sunshine, Santa Ale, 67, stands tall amongst the rubble of a construction site. He is busy sorting piles of old and new timber, cutting wood for his friend's new home.

Before the earthquake, Santa was a farmer, carpenter, and the breadwinner for two families, his own and his sons. The earthquake left both his land and home severely damaged, his house no longer large enough for one family, and his crops destroyed. Santa's family were in crisis, but they quickly came to benefit from our swift response, receiving basic survival items including food, clothes, emergency shelter supplies and corrugated galvanised iron sheets. He has also benefited from masonry training with DEC member CAFOD.

As their immediate survival needs were met, Santa began the long process of rebuilding his life. He has salvaged his basic carpentry machine and is taking on any work he can.

LEARNING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

It remains the case that aid agencies and beneficiaries will see the best results from rigorously understanding and implementing best practice, which has been developed during previous responses.

To ensure the most appropriate and effective response to the earthquake, Dec members continuously monitor their emergency programmes, reassessing needs and conducting evaluations. Member agencies worked hard to be transparent and accountable to the Nepali people, using radio, noticeboards, helpdesks and community mobilisers to tell communities what aid they could expect to receive. Knowing what to expect from aid agencies allowed individuals and communities to hold us to account if we fell short of our goals. Members also set up complaint mechanisms and acted upon the feedback received, for example shifting from building temporary latrines to permanent ones.

The Government of Nepal was very involved in the response and this leadership was welcome, but created two serious issues.

The first was the Government's emphasis on helping everyone affected by the earthquake, rather than focusing resources on the most vulnerable and worst affected communities.

The second issue was that many people from marginalised social or ethnic groups lacked the official government paperwork to get onto government registers. Members worked closely with local-level authorities to ensure often limited resources reached the most vulnerable.

The Nepali government, the UN and international NGOs had all expected - and prepared for - a major earthquake, but the emphasis had been on the vulnerability of Kathmandu, and so the overwhelmingly rural devastation of the 2015 earthquake was a surprise and led to huge logistical challenges, particularly in reaching very remote mountainous areas inaccessible by road.

An additional challenge was a fuel crisis which hit Nepal in September 2015, meaning materials were delayed and movement restricted, against a backdrop of approaching winter and its extreme weather. DEC members were forced to pay more for goods required to meet needs, and had to reduce all but essential internal travel.

GOING FORWARD >>

All DEC responses are broken into two phases - the first six months which has a greater emphasis on emergency response, and a second phase which has a greater emphasis on longer term recovery and reconstruction.

In the first phase of the Nepal response, DEC members substantially exceeded their goals despite enormous challenges. The Nepali people now face an extremely tough road to recovery, but DEC member agencies are determined to support them on that journey.

Phase 2 of the DEC's Nepal response started in October 2015, and has a budget of £35.5 million for 30 months of work. Member agencies are now increasingly focused on livelihood restoration to enable self-sufficiency, and supporting shelter reconstruction.



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HOW WE WORK

We make sure that your generous donation is spent on urgent humanitarian aid required by devastated communities, as well as long term support to rebuild the lives of people in these communities following disaster.

Donating through the DEC is simple and effective. It removes unnecessary competition between aid agencies, reduces administrative costs and means we can better inform the UK public about humanitarian need. We operate an extremely cost effective model, spending an average of just 4% of the money we raise on fundraising, with the rest distributed to our members to carry out their vital humanitarian work. A team of just 15 staff manage our day-to-day operations, supported by dedicated volunteers.