



Nepal Earthquake Humanitarian Response Fund

CARE seeks \$40 million to provide lifesaving relief and support longer-term recovery for quake survivors



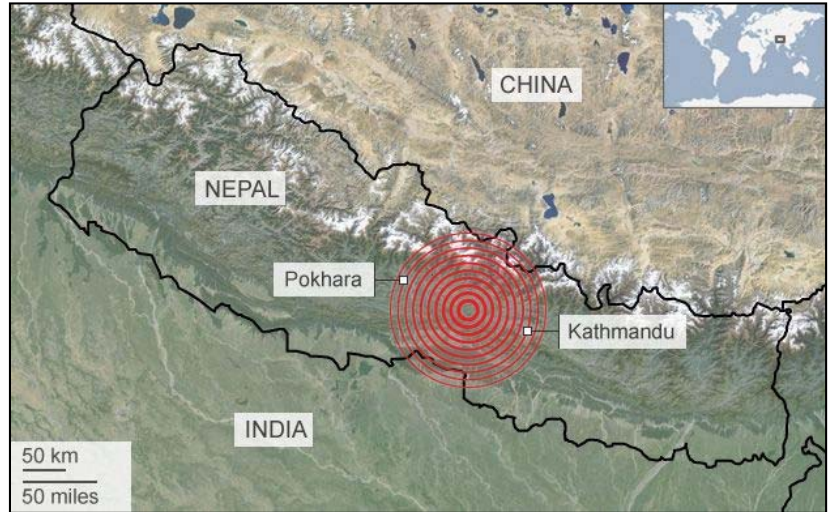
Many families in Nepal have lost everything. Food, clothing, bedding and household items lay buried under ruins of people's houses.

The Situation

CARE is responding to the 7.8-magnitude earthquake that rocked Nepal on April 25 – the worst quake to hit that country in more than 80 years. Families urgently need clean water, food, emergency shelter and medical assistance. More than 3,900 people have reportedly died and that number is expected to rise. Thousands more are injured. Heavy damage has been apparent around Kathmandu, the capital city, but less clear is how grave the situation is in hard-to-reach rural, hilly communities. In some areas in Gorkha district, the epicenter, it is estimated that up to 80 percent of houses have been destroyed or severely damaged. Although information is very limited at this early stage, we expect the earthquake will have a

high humanitarian impact for people living in a 60-mile radius, based on the magnitude and the vulnerability of the affected population. Access to many rural areas remains a challenge. Roads are damaged and mobile communications is patchy, making it difficult to fully assess the extent of damage. Moreover, the main airport in Kathmandu is relatively small, with limited capacity to handle all incoming relief flights.

“Almost everyone has been sleeping outside and they are creating temporary shelters with what they have,” says CARE Nepal’s emergency response coordinator Santosh Sharma. “I am seeing women and children suffering a lot ... they are living outside their homes and fear going inside. In some places there is no electricity, and soon there could be a scarcity of water. People have been pooling their resources together, but there could soon be problems with food and water.”



CARE is appealing for immediate funds to ramp-up our emergency response and support the longer-term recovery of quake survivors.

CARE’s Response

CARE was one of the first international humanitarian organizations to work in Nepal. Since 1978, CARE has helped communities meet basic health, economic, education and natural resource needs. We currently work in 33 of Nepal’s 75 districts to address the root causes of poverty and social injustice, such as discrimination based on gender, caste, class and ethnicity; poor governance; and vulnerability from conflict and natural disasters. CARE is very familiar with the regions affected by the earthquake.

Relief efforts started immediately after the earthquake hit. CARE deployed emergency staff from around the world to join 150 CARE staff based in Nepal to scale-up the emergency response. Our initial response aims to reach 100,000 people with lifesaving aid such as emergency shelter, clean water and family kits, which include tarpaulins, blankets, jerry cans and hygiene items. As more assessments are completed and the response evolves, CARE will transition to provide more durable solutions, allowing families to build back safer and reduce their vulnerability to future natural disasters. Moreover, CARE will take special consideration on the impact of women and girls, as they are always the most vulnerable when a disaster strikes, facing gender-based violence, psychosocial difficulties and malnutrition.



Coordination after a disaster of this size is crucial. Right now, CARE and other aid agencies are working with the UN and Nepalese government to determine the extent of the needs and ensure we reach everyone. Although it will take some time to determine the full extent of the earthquake's devastation, the following sectors are likely to be impacted and factored into CARE's comprehensive response strategy, particularly in rural areas outside of Kathmandu toward Pokhara.

- **Livelihoods:** The earthquake will have a major impact on the country's economy, as Kathmandu is the center of most economic activities. Household income and poverty levels are likely to be affected.
- **Food security:** Most of Kathmandu's food supply comes from outside the region, so there would be a significant impact on food security when roads are damaged or destroyed. Anticipated impacts include market disruptions and price hikes on food items.
- **Water and sanitation:** There is a concern of water-borne diseases. Diarrhea is already an issue in Kathmandu Valley, and if people don't have access to safe drinking water this may worsen. Some areas have lost access to their water supply due to electricity cuts. Young children, infants, and pregnant women are at greatest risk of waterborne disease. This is why CARE is focusing our initial response on providing safe drinking water and sanitation support to help prevent the spread of waterborne diseases.
- **Shelter:** People who have lost their homes will require safe and secure temporary shelter, as well as support to rebuild sturdier houses.
- **Health care:** Risks include the spread of disease, particularly resulting from a lack of clean drinking water and adequate sanitation systems, limited or inaccessible medical care due to damaged health facilities, and psychosocial impacts on affected populations.
- **Infrastructure:** As noted above, damage to infrastructure, including roads, buildings, power lines, water systems and communications, will make relief operations more difficult, as humanitarian teams will face challenges in reaching affected areas and in restoring basic services.
- **Education:** Given the extent of the devastation, we anticipate some schools to be completely destroyed and others to need significant repair.



Your contribution to the **Nepal Earthquake Humanitarian Response Fund**¹ is a crucial source for rapid response and the most effective way to support CARE's work. It provides us **flexible resources** to address the rapidly changing needs of families affected by this deadly crisis. Your gift will help us position and deploy needed supplies and staff, make funds available to emergency-affected communities for immediate assistance, strengthen our ability to respond to future emergencies, and provide overall program oversight to ensure the highest-quality response.

¹ In order to effectively manage the current emergency response and continue to be able to rapidly deploy resources for other emergencies, CARE will reserve 20 percent of donations to the Nepal Earthquake Humanitarian Response Fund to cover technical support, administration and emergency preparedness expenses, including the rapid deployment of staff to emergencies such as this one.

Conclusion

CARE's emergency response teams specialize in providing life-saving food, water, shelter and health care. CARE has more than six decades of experience helping people prepare for disasters, providing lifesaving assistance when a crisis hits, and helping communities recover after the emergency has passed. CARE, which works in 90 countries around the world, places a special focus on women, children and other vulnerable populations, who are often disproportionately affected by disasters. In 2014, our emergency response and recovery projects reached nearly 4 million people in 40 countries.

As earthquake-affected communities in Kathmandu and surrounding districts struggle to recover from this catastrophe, CARE is on the ground and committed to meeting both immediate needs as well as supporting longer-term recovery efforts. That makes your support of the **Nepal Earthquake Humanitarian Response Fund** especially valuable, as it provides CARE flexible resources that can be directed where they are most urgently needed, both now and in the difficult months and years to come. Thank you for considering a generous gift.

Nepal Response Dollar Handles

- \$65 can provide a family kit to a family of six.
- \$75 can provide a person with ready-to-eat food for 15 days.
- \$112 can provide clean drinking water for 12 families.
- \$220 can provide emergency shelter to a family.

April 27, 2015