



HIGHLIGHTS

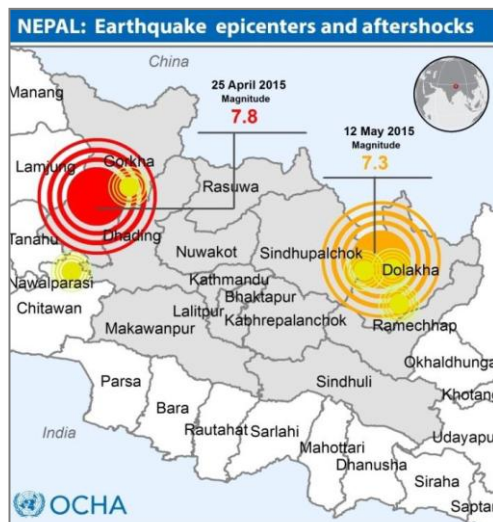
- **FAO is supporting Government-led efforts to address food security and livelihood needs in six districts most severely affected by the earthquakes:** Nuwakot, Dhading, Gorkha, Rasuwa, Dolakha and Sindhupalchowk.
- **The Nepal Food Security Cluster (FSC) recently released the 'Agricultural Livelihood Impact Appraisal'** – an FSC exercise led by FAO – containing the first detailed analysis of the earthquakes' impact on the crops, livestock, seed, farming tools and fertilizer of farming families in the six most affected districts.
- **FAO supported the Post Disaster Needs Assessment**, taking a lead role in the agriculture sector component.
- **Key findings in the six most severely affected districts include:**
 - Very significant impact on stored crops (particularly rice, maize, millet) and seed availability (particularly rice, millet).
 - Lower impact on standing crops (although expected to increase).
 - High agricultural tool loss; reduced household access to fertilizer; and steep reduction in farm labour availability.
 - Significant animal losses (cattle 16 percent; poultry 36 percent); animal health risks; and reduced production.
 - Damage to irrigation and other agricultural infrastructure.
- **Within the revised Flash Appeal, FAO seeks USD 23.4 million to address critical needs, including to:**
 - prevent post-harvest losses by providing immediate grain storage capacity.
 - ensure vegetable and winter wheat crop planting through the provision of crop production packages.
 - repair small-scale irrigation infrastructure.
 - keep animals healthy and productive through the emergency provision of animal feed, shelter and veterinary supplies.
 - reduce landslide risks by stabilizing, mapping and monitoring landslides.
- **FAO has mobilized USD 4.3 million**, thanks to contributions from Belgium, Italy, Norway and FAO.
- **FAO is completing distribution of emergency crop and livestock support to some 90 000 households**, including vegetable seeds, grain storage bags and animal feed supplements and rice seeds to some 40 000 families (completed).

BACKGROUND

Two major earthquakes struck Western and Central Regions of Nepal on 25 April and 12 May (7.8 and 7.3 magnitude, respectively).

Millions of people are affected in a total of 39 districts, out of 75 districts countrywide. The affected areas range from Nepal's largest cities (Kathmandu and Pokhara) to highly vulnerable rural areas. The massive quakes and aftershocks severely injured and killed thousands of people, flattened homes, downed power and destroyed infrastructure, including roads to access affected populations.

FAO is working closely with the Government and partners of the Food Security Cluster (FSC) to meet the urgent needs of affected populations. In May, a FSC Food Security Assessment was carried out in 11 districts. As part of this, FAO led an Agricultural Livelihood Impact Appraisal in the six most affected districts: Nuwakot, Dhading, Gorkha, Rasuwa, Dolakha and Sindhupalchowk. A Post Disaster Needs Assessment immediately followed, with FAO leading the agriculture and livestock component and contributing to other sectoral components (e.g. Nutrition, Environment and Forestry, Irrigation and Disaster Risk Management).



AGRICULTURAL IMPACTS AND PRIORITIES

❖ High impact on food security and agricultural livelihoods.

Agriculture is the main source of livelihood for two-thirds of Nepal's population, including many subsistence farmers. Affected families have lost livestock, food and seed stocks, standing crops and agricultural inputs, while facing market disruptions and constrained movement of emergency assistance. Irrigation and drainage canals have also been damaged.

Food Security Cluster

Working in partnership for an effective, coordinated and evidence-based response.

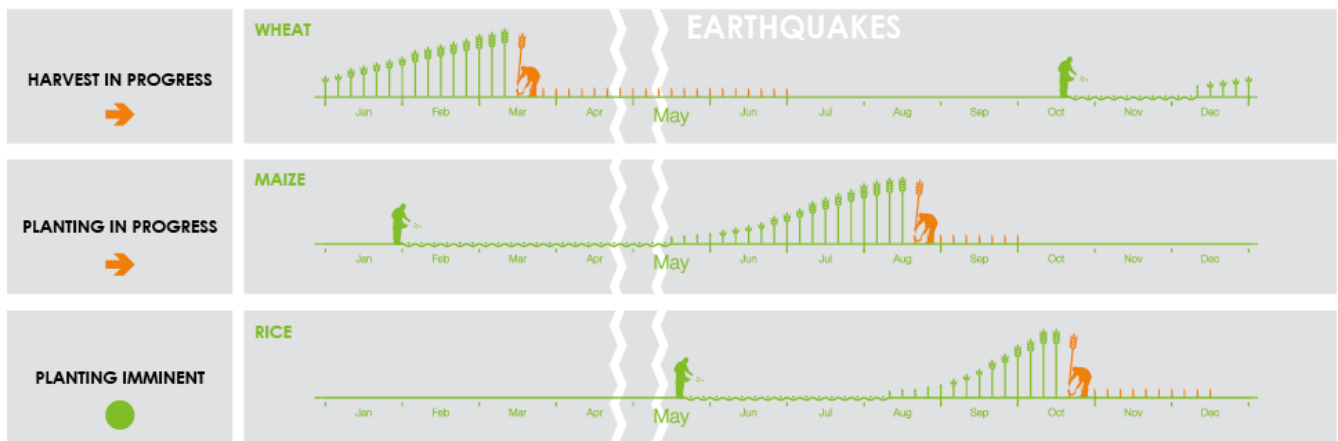
Co-led by FAO and WFP



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- ❖ **The earthquakes struck during the wheat harvest, while maize planting was ongoing and rice sowing was just beginning (needed to be completed before the monsoon).**



- ❖ **Farmers need support to protect their 2015 wheat crop (harvested) and rice crops (now being transplanted), and plant wheat for the winter season.**

Farmers need immediate grain storage capacity to prevent further losses of their 2015 wheat crop and other crops. From October, farmers will also need storage capacity for harvested rice. Provision of vegetable seeds is critical to increase access to nutrient-rich fresh foods. Distribution of wheat seeds is a priority for the winter season.

- ❖ **There is also a critical window to preserve livestock.**

Livestock are a continuous source of food, income and draught power for rural families, and costly to replace. Further livestock losses can be prevented with timely veterinary supplies, feed and shelter – especially in light of the monsoon (June–August).

- ❖ **Irrigation repair is crucial, especially for winter crops.**

The earthquakes seriously damaged irrigation infrastructure, which rural communities rely on for their crops, livestock and families. If not repaired quickly, this will seriously affect winter food production. Work to stabilize, map and monitor landslides will help to protect irrigation infrastructure.

FAO priorities include



Grain/crop storage

Crop packages

Irrigation repair

Slope stabilization



Livestock feed

Veterinary supplies

Animal shelter



23.4 million

FAO RESPONSE

FAO is supporting Government efforts to rapidly restore rural livelihoods and food production.

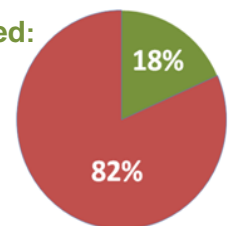
Immediately following the earthquakes, FAO:

- activated a number of its emergency response protocols
- mobilized funds from its own resources to kick-start response
- deployed an emergency response team
- assessed agricultural damages in six districts.

Funding received:
USD 4.3 million

Funding gap:
USD 19.1 million

Donors: Belgium, Italy, Norway, FAO



FAO is completing distribution of emergency crop and livestock support to some 90 000 families, including:

- ✓ 198 tonnes of rice seed to 40 000 households (completed)
- ✓ 50 000 packets of assorted vegetable seeds
- ✓ 40 000 grain storage bags to reduce further food losses
- ✓ 20 000 packages of animal feed to keep surviving animals healthy and productive.

FAO is also focused on mapping and monitoring major earthquake cracks in key districts, and establishing early warning systems to advise farmers of major new landslide threats. Further, it is looking at land stabilization on mountain slopes to help reduce the risk of landslides to vulnerable farming communities.

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