

Nepal Food Security Cluster

13th May 2015

Kathmandu

CONTEXT:

- A 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal on 25 April at 11:56
- Large scale damage and many casualties.
- Number of landslides and avalanches-logs challenges
- Based on preliminary assessment, 6.5 million people have been affected, with 3.5 million people estimated to be in need of food assistance
- Out of this, it is estimated that **1.4 million people** will be in need of priority assistance that the FSC partners will be supporting over an initial period of three months

CONTEXT:

- New earthquake measuring 7.3 magnitude struck yesterday at 12:50 local time.
- The epicentre was southeast of Kodari (Sindhupalchowk District), 76 km northeast of Kathmandu – an area already affected by the 25 April quake.
- Landslides were reported in Langtang Region in the Himalayas. Many areas around the epicentre are particularly susceptible to landslides.
- Aftershocks continued during the night (5.2 magnitude)

ASSESSMENTS:

- NeKSAP's Food Security District Network activated, and are currently contributing to the needs assessment
- Ministry of Agriculture NeKSAP, WFP, FAO and other cluster partners finalized the questionnaire
- FSC conducting a joint needs assessment in all 11 districts prioritized by the government
- The assessment, which is expected to be finalized by 25 May

CLUSTER ACHIEVEMENTS:

- To date partners over a million people have food in-hand
- However, it is important to highlight that affected population have been provided so far with an initial one off distribution of basic food ration that will need to be followed by a more diverse and continuous food support.
- Procurement of agricultural inputs is also on going based on funding availability.

FSC FUNDING STATUS:

- Current earthquake response primarily funded through partners emergency reserves that will need to be supplemented.
- Flash appeal requirements stands at 128 million USD.
- Funds received by the cluster account for 4,896,484 USD
- Unmet requirements of 123,103,516 USD.

FSC FUNDING STATUS:

- The use of advanced internal funding for the response and the low percentage of funding received under the flash appeal by the FSC (4%), makes it particularly **urgent to advocate for the immediate release of funding** to enable FSC actors to address the food needs of the affected population.
- Given the short wind of time available for the next planting season it is also **extremely critical to provide agriculture and livestock input assistance** to the affected farming families.

COORDINATION STRUCTURE:

- **National coordination :**

1 FSC Coordinator (KTM based) In support of MOAD

1 FSC Information Management Officer (KTM based)

- **Sub-National Cluster Coordination:**

1 Sub national cluster focal point roving among districts supporting the district level focal points

2 FSC focal point in each of the Humanitarian hubs Gorkha (SC) and in Sindhupalchok (WFP)

1 FSC focal point (SP) in Dhading

COORDINATION STRUCTURE

NEXT:

- Possible opening of another humanitarian hub
- Possible need for district level Focal point
- Partners involvement for the hub full time
- Other districts part time

FLASH APPEAL PROCESS:

- HCT decided to release it within 72 hours
- A meeting MoAD on 27 April and discussed the priorities
- Cluster Meeting held on 28 April and less than 48 hours were available
- Partners were requested to submit few sentences with activities, geographic coverage and a \$ figure within 24 hours
- Only four partners provided their inputs
- US\$ 128 million appealed for the cluster
- Partners are requested to be ready for the revision due to happen within next 3 weeks

FLASH APPEAL CHALLENGES:

- Only few agencies responded though there was a presence of known 'players'
- Confusion started when few clusters started revising the figures within few days
- FSC partners started uploading templates on OPS increasing the ballpark figure
- Requested OCHA to be consistent on the process to avoid any confusion
- Still not clear position on Flash Appeal revision, nature or time frame
- Proper vetting necessary to prioritize actual needs and meet the gaps