

Alert

Nepal

Nepal Shaken by 6.8 Richer Earthquake

Geneva, 19 September 2011

1. Brief description of the emergency

At dusk on 18 September 2011 Kathmandu city and other parts of Nepal were shaken by an earthquake measuring 6.8 on the Richter scale. The epicentre of this earthquake was on the Indo-Nepal border which is 300 km east of Kathmandu city. According to initial reports, some eastern districts - *Taplejung, Pancthar, Ilan, Teretmum, Ramechhap, Jhapa, Morang, Sunsari* have been affected. Several buildings in Kathmandu valley also collapsed claiming lives and property. The tremors were also felt in India, Bangladesh and Tibet.

2. Impact

There has been some difficulty getting reliable information due to the remoteness and inadequate communication facilities in the affected areas. However, according to reports the death toll in the earthquake has risen to 38 with 23 people being killed in the Indian states of Sikkim and West Bengal, seven each in Nepal and Tibet.

3. National and international response

The government of Nepal held a cabinet meeting in the late evening of 18 September 2011 and decided to mobilize all resources for search and rescue missions and distribution of immediate relief to the earthquake affected.

4. ACT Alliance response

ACT Alliance Nepal Forum members (Lutheran World Federation (LWF) Nepal, ICCO and Kerk in Actie, the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission (FLEM) and DanChurchAid (DCA) have held a telephone conference and are busy collecting information from their own networks and local implementing partners in the

affected districts. Information will be shared among the forum members and with the ACT Alliance Secretariat.

Planned activities: According to the National Emergency Operation Centre (EOC), the situation is under control and the respective District Disaster Relief Committees (DDRCs) have been mobilized for search, rescue and relief. If the situation demands, ACT Alliance Nepal Forum will meet and develop its emergency response and recovery plan based on the needs on the ground. LWF Nepal will coordinate with the Government of Nepal, ACT Alliance Nepal Forum members, the Association of INGOs in Nepal (AIN), and IASC clusters members in Nepal for rapid needs assessment. It will engage in relief and recovery interventions, mainly in food, WASH, shelter and education clusters if needed.

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to Jean-Daniel Birmele, ACT Chief Finance Officer (Jean.Daniel.Birmele@actalliance.org).

Thank you for your attention.

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