

# **Disaster Response Cooperation**

(Case of 2015 Nepal Earthquake)

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# Gorkha Earthquake, 2015

- As a result of the earthquake that struck Nepal on 25 April and 12 May 2015, 8970 people dead, 22, 302 people are injured.
- On Saturday, 25 April 2015 at 11:56 local time a 7.6 magnitude earthquake struck
   Barpak of Gorkha District, about 76 Km northwest of Kathmandu .
- The catastrophic earthquake was followed by more than 450 aftershocks greater than magnitude 4.0.
- Four aftershocks were greater than 6.0 Magnitude.

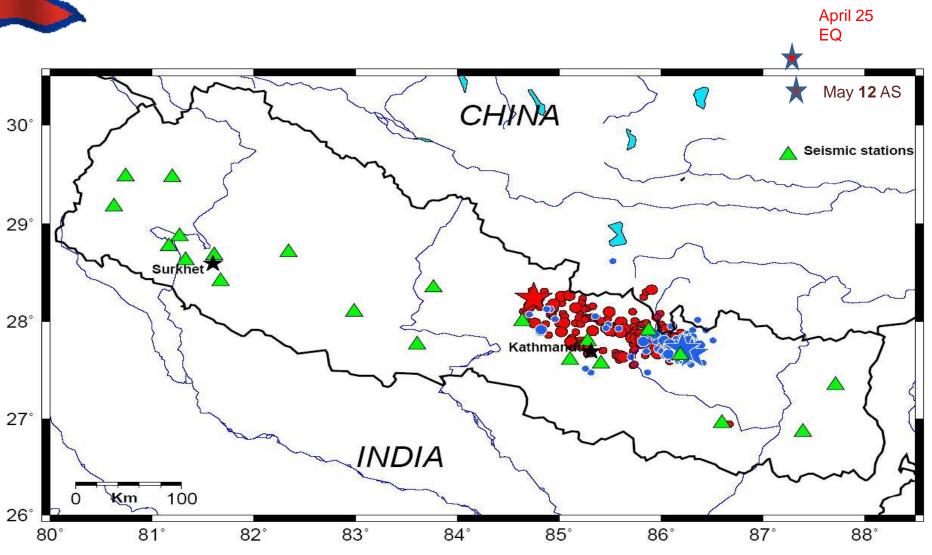


# Gorkha Earthquake, 2015

- 8 Million people, one third population of Nepal have been affected.
- 31 districts affected out of them 14 districts were declared 'crisis-hit' for the purpose of prioritizing rescue and relief operation.
- More than 800, 000 houses, school buildings and heritage sites were partially or fully damaged.
- The estimated loss was \$9.3 billion (more than one third of the GDP)

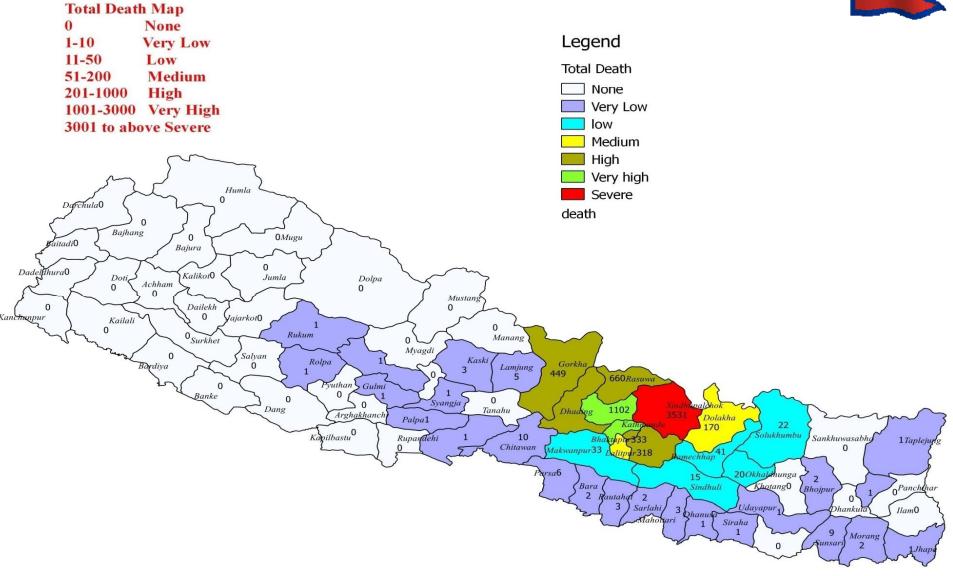


#### Earthquake and After Shocks, more than 475

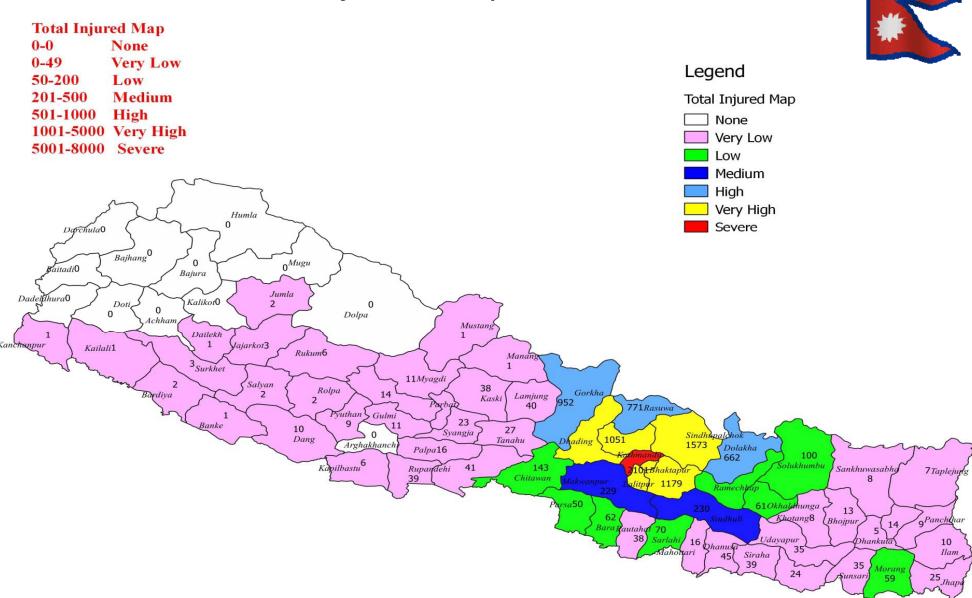


#### Death Tolls 8,970



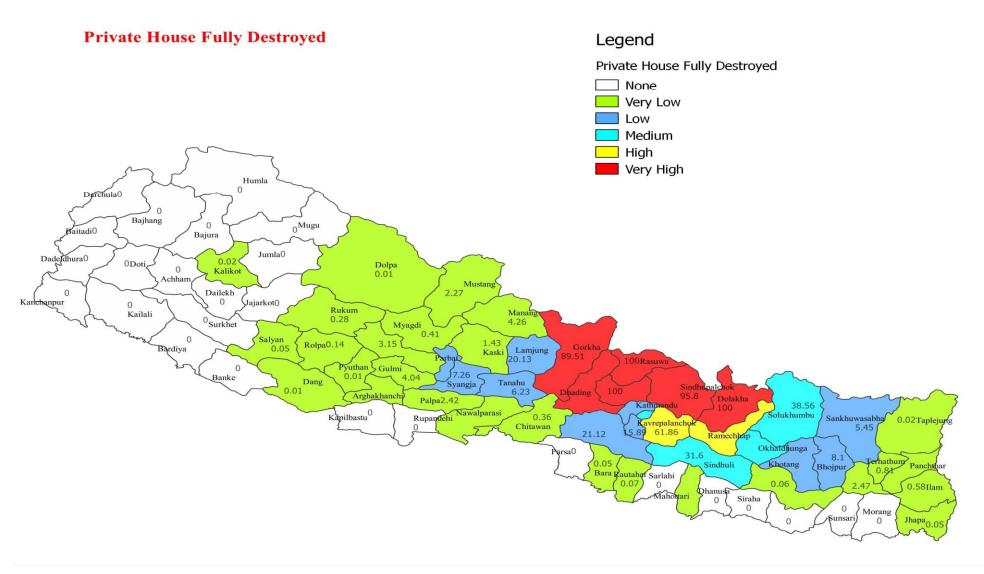


#### Injured People





#### **Damage of Houses**

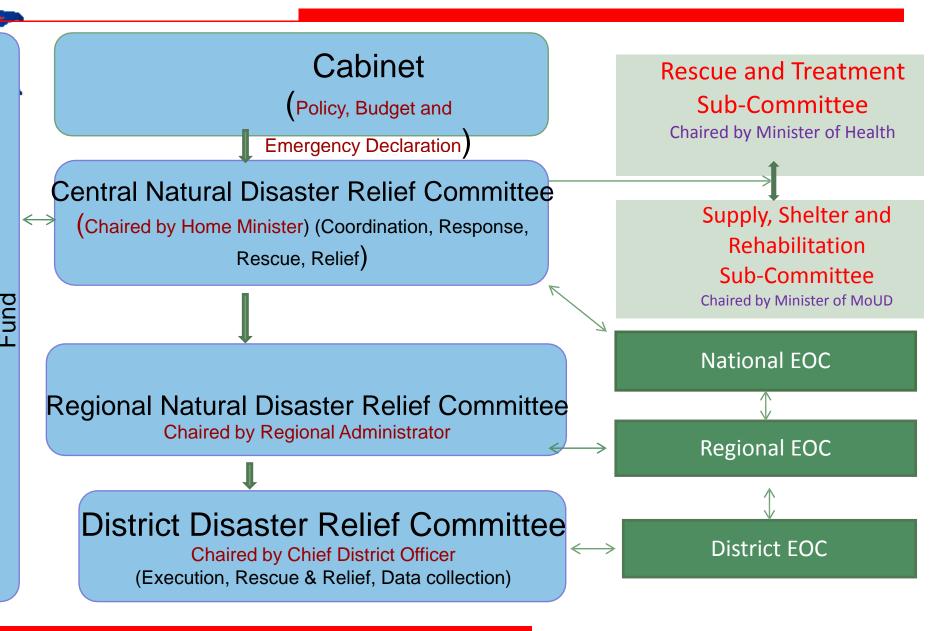




# **Response of Nepal Earthquake**

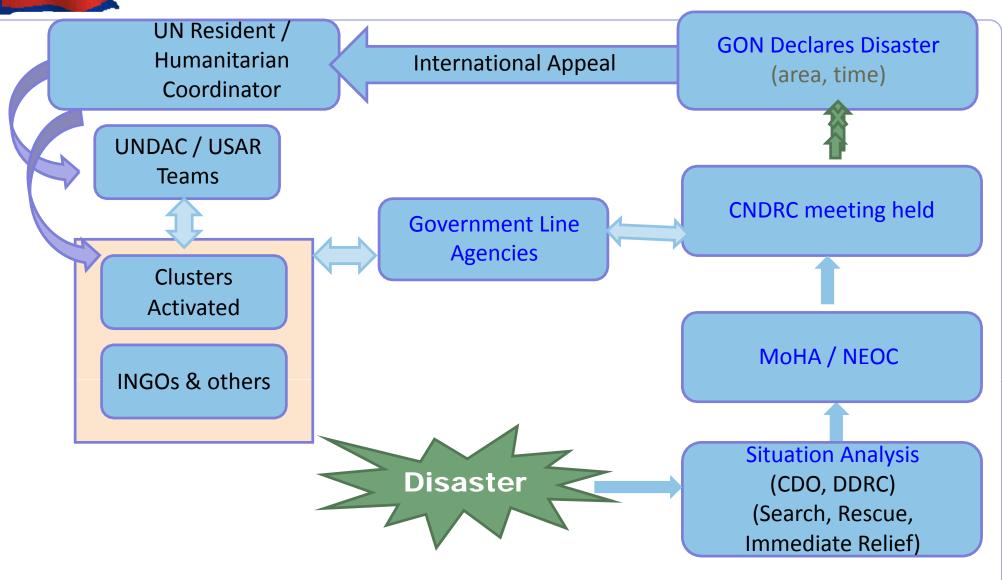
NEPAL EARTHQUAKE LIVE FOOTAGE and RESCUE.mp4

### Institutional Framework (in line with 1982 Act)





#### **Emergency Response Mechanism**





# **Immediate Response**

- Activation of National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC) at 4th level,
- Immediate Search and Rescue Operation started,
- Activation of DDRC and DEOC at earthquake affected districts, mobilisation of district level security forces for search and rescue,
- Standby Hospitals and health facility,
- Immediate Relief Distribution started in the leadership of Local Administration,
- Appeal from the Prime-Minister,
- Post-disaster law and order maintained,
- Collaboration and Cooperation with local humanitarian agencies including Redcross volunteers,
- Community people involvement along with security forces,

#### **Higher Government Authority Activation**

- Meeting of CNDRC after two hours, at 14.00
   hrs, made several policy decisions including
  - Accelerate SAR and Relief operations timely and effectively,
  - Standby Free Medical treatment,
  - Activation of all level of government and non-government agencies,





#### **Higher Government Authority Activation**



- Several consecutive CNDRC meetings were held to take necessary decisions and recommendation to the Council of Ministers.
- Secretaries Meeting, lead by Chief Secretary,
   activate all level government machinery.
- Establishment of Central Command Post,
   headed by Home Secretary.





#### **Key Decisions of CNDRC**

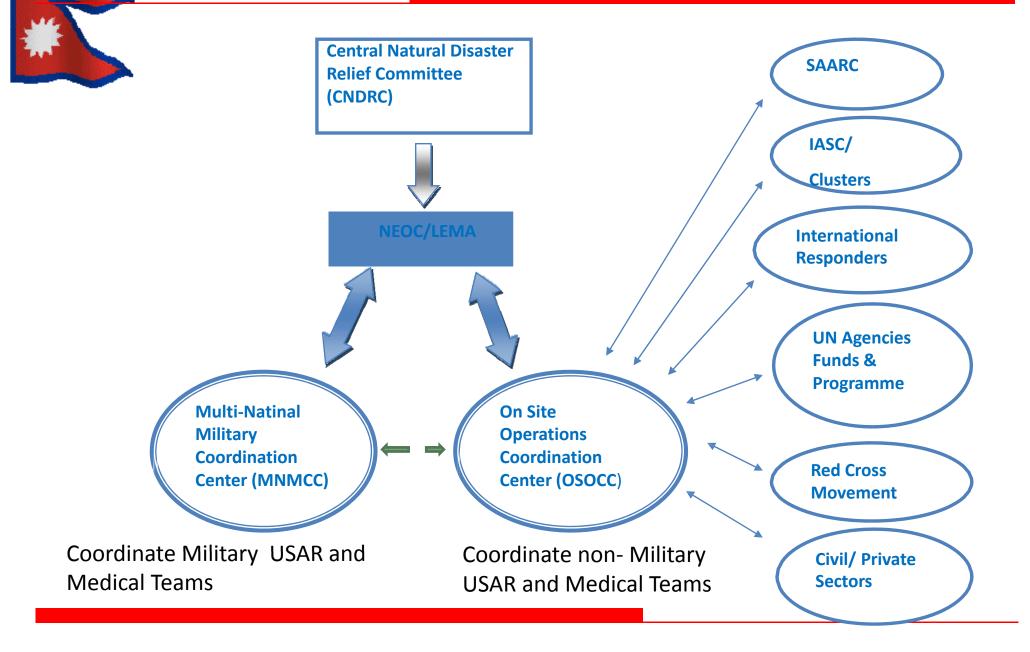
- All the hospitals would remain open for 24 hours, all government, community and private hospitals should provide free service to the people injured by earthquake.
- All media and communication services should deliver information and notices.
- 14 districts were declared as districts of crisis.
- As the preliminary assessment showed bigger losses which was beyond the national capacity to response, the CNDRC recommended to the Council of Ministers for seeking international support.



#### **Emergency Declaration**

- Government of Nepal declared emergency in 14 crisis-hit districts for one month period,
- Chief District Officer (CDO) had given special authority, as per prevailing law to handle basic utility services and to make search, rescue and relief operation effective,
- Basic utility services and market were made functional and regulated accordingly.
- Search, rescue operation and relief distribution were expedited.





#### **HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION STRUCTURE**

#### **Humanitarian Coordinator**



#### IASC Principals (HCT)

Chair: HC

Members: AIN, FAO, IFRC, IOM, OHCHR, OCHA, UNMIN, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, Standing Invitees, ICRC

Main Humanitarian Country Team. The Principal IASC is a strategic decision making body with representation of Heads of Agency level. Once in 2 months



#### **IASC Operational**

Chair: OCHA

Members: Cluster Leads, IFRC, IOM, NRCAINOITABR, SC, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHABITAT, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, ICRC (Obs.) Inter Agency Standing Committee

#### Cluster level Coordination



- 2. Education
- 3. Shelter
- 4. Health
- 5. Nutrition
- 6. Protection
- 7. Water, Sanitation & Hygiene
- Food Security
- 9. Telecomm
- 10. Logistics
- 11. Early Recovery (as a network)

Central Natural Disaster Relief Committee



Sovernment Cluster Focal Points and DDRC

#### **International Assistance**

- Various arrangements were made to facilitate
   incoming of the International humanitarian actors:
   24hrs opening of Immigration offices, Visa fee
   exemption, Customs clearance-model agreement etc.
- On Site Operation Cooperation Centre (OSOCC) were activated in the Humanitarian Staging Area (HAS) of Tribhuvan International Airport,
- Multi-National Military Coordination Centre (MNMCC) at Nepalese Army and OSOCC were made operational under the policy leadership of NEOC, as per the NDRF and INSARAG Guidelines.



#### **International Assistance**

- More than 1400 medical professionals from 78 International Medical teams were mobilized in coordination with Ministry of Health,
- After a week of devastating quake, CNDRC meeting on 2 May 2015 acknowledged the efforts of International SAR Teams and requested to make their exit plans.
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs facilitated International SAR Teams and relief support.







#### **National Search and Rescue**

#### **Helicopter Mobilization**

- 66069 Army,41776 Police,24775 Armed Police Force, 22500 Civil Servants were mobilized for search, rescue and relief operation
- All together 7762 people were rescued by helicopters and 4689 were rescued by land transportation
- National Security Forces were heavily involved rescuing buried and wounded people from rubble
- All injured and rescued people were given immediate free medical treatment

Helicopters of	Numbers	Flights
Nepalese Army	10	1958
Private Sector	6	745
Indian Air Force	13	1177
USA	7	287
Chinese	3	74
Total	39	4241
Pokhara Base Flights		458
Grand Total		4699



# Immediate Search and Rescue Operations



Live rescue from collapsed buildings	Individual	16	
Search and Rescue Team - National	Civil Servant	22,500	Related Ministries and Organisations
	Nepal Army	66,069	
	Nepal Police	41,776	
	Arm Police Force	24,775	
	Government Health Workers	9,500	
	Private Sector	4,000	
Search and Rescue Team - International	Country	34	
	Persons of the Countries	4,521	
	Canine	141	
International Health Team	Groups	78	МоН
	Total Individual	1,400	

#### **Search and Rescue**





# **Challenges and lessons learning**



# Positive Aspects of Response

- 7000 rescued by Air Ambulance from most difficult terrain,
- Effective free treatment of emergency in both private and public hospitals,
- overall situation of law and order was maintained
- Smooth supply of drinking water, restoration of communication,
- Successfully managed a safe passage to the exodus of around one million affected people from Kathmandu within one week
- Probable epidemic outbreak was fully controlled,



# Challenges

- Coordination among the stakeholders
- Management and Mobilization of relief materials
- Access to remote areas for rescue and relief,
- Temporary settlement of displaced
- Provision of High-Tech Equipments for search and rescue
- Debris management
- Tools and equipment and sufficient skills to dismantle the damaged structures.
- Identification of victims and data management



# Challenges

- Selection of appropriate caring of children with good faith who lost their parents and guardians.
- Challenges for immediate repair of rural roads and for regular supply,
- Collection of integrated field information and dissemination
- Lack of office space for the government operations as significant number of government buildings were damaged / destroyed



#### Lessons learnt

- Strict implementation of building code.
- Strengthen the capacity of National Search and Rescue Team specially focusing for Security forces.
- Assured international supports in Search and Rescue, relief and recovery.
- Need of extra Helipads in Rural Areas,
- Emergency additional warehouses and adequate stockpiling of appropriate supplies and equipment
- Pre-list and provision of Relief Materials



#### Lessons learnt

- One window system is important for distribution of relief materials in remote areas.
- Expansion of EOCs in all districts (even upto Municipality level),
- Need of GIS based integrated Disaster Management Information System (with remote sensing, satellite images and SAT Phone)
- Volunteer Mobilization in organized way through appropriate agency,
- Awareness should follow a community based approach,
- Strengthen the capacity of Community level SAR Teams.

# SEARCH & RESCUE.....









# LIVE RESCUE

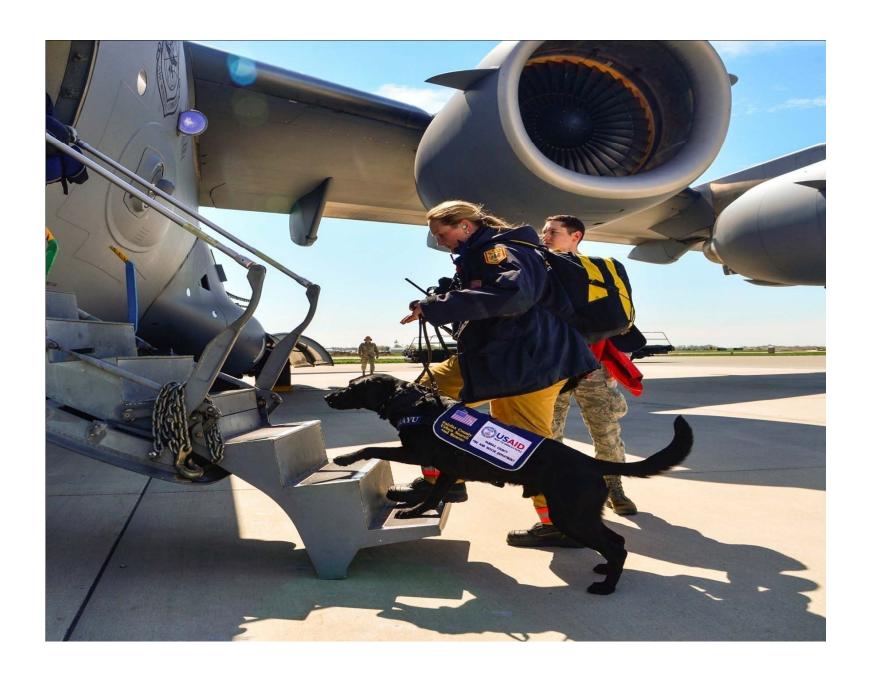












# **Dead Body Collection**









# HELICOPTER RESCUE









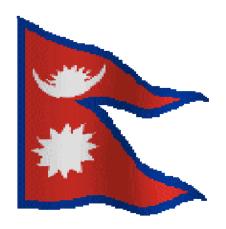
### **INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE**











# Thank You

Any Questions ....