

## Nepal

### Earthquake Response

Situation Report #3 (Last Updated: 6 November 2023)

Crisis onset Date	3 November 2023, 23:47 HRS
Nature of crisis	Earthquake
Country/Affected location	Jajarkot, Rukum West, and adjoining districts, in Karnali Province
SC operational Area	Yes
Is the area affected by the crisis accessible? If not, why?	Yes
Number of people affected/killed/injured	153 <sup>1</sup> confirmed deaths, of whom 82 are children. Over 332 injured as per the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Law, Karnali Province

#### General Overview

An earthquake measuring 6.4 in the Richter scale struck Jajarkot in Karnali Province in western Nepal at around 11.47 p.m. local time (UTC 6.02 p.m.) on 3 November 2023. The epicenter was in Ramidanda in Jajarkot district. Jajarkot and Rukum West districts have been heavily affected.

Aftershock on November 6: Frequent aftershocks are being felt. At 14:34 HRS on November 6, a jolt with a magnitude of 5.8 was recorded in Ramidanda of Jajarkot district; the tremor was also felt in Kathmandu.

#### Loss and Damage Summary (As of 6 November)

- **153 people are reported to have died, of whom 82 are children.** (Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs and Law, Karnali Province)
- 932 houses have been reported to be fully damaged, and 2861 houses have been partially damaged. (Note: The data is subject to change)
- Significant loss of Livestock reported, but no data is available till date.
- 101 schools fully damaged (91 in Jajarkot and 10 in Rukum West , as per the data from 6<sup>th</sup> November).
- According to Red Cross the estimated household damaged is more than 10,000. (Note: Final data will be provided after detailed assessment.)



## Details of Loss and Damage (As of November 6):

(Note: This is the preliminary data, and is subject to change.)

SN	Affected Districts	Death	Injured	Fully damaged Hhs	Partially damaged Hhs	School Buildings Fully	School Buildings Partially	School Toilets Fully Damaged	School Toilets Partially Damaged
1	Jajarkot	101	131	905	2685	91	122	43	35
2	Rukum West	52	189	NA	NA	10	NA	NA	NA
3	Salyan	0	2	NA	97	NA	NA	NA	NA
4	Jumla	0	6	NA	1	NA	NA	NA	NA
5	Kalikot	0	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
6	Rolpa	0	1	NA	17	NA	NA	NA	NA
7	Rukum East	0	0	NA	118	NA	NA	NA	NA
8	Nawalparasi East	0	0	NA	1	NA	NA	NA	NA
9	Dang	0	0	NA	6	NA	NA	NA	NA
10	Pyuthan	0	0	NA	29	NA	NA	NA	NA
11	Dailekh		3	1	1	NA	NA	NA	NA
12	Baitadi	0	3	1	14	NA	NA	NA	NA
	<b>Total</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>907</b>	<b>2969</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>35</b>
NA= Not Available									

**Data Source: MoIAL, Karnali Province, MoHA and Education Cluster:**

### Immediate Need

- **Emergency Shelter:** Tarpaulins, tents, mattress, blankets, utensil sets, high altitude shelter kit
- **Winterization Support:** Warm clothes, fuel
- **Food:** Ready-to-eat food
- **Education:** Temporary Learning centers, reading and learning kits, and restoration of wash facilities in schools.
- **Health:** First-Aid kits, health workers
- **Wash Facilities:** Hygiene Kits, water purifier/water filters, temporary toilets, bathing stations for women
- **Protection:** Psychosocial support, dignity Kits, child friendly spaces, women friendly spaces, care and referral support for children who have lost their family members
- **Life-saving messages:** Radio PSA on critical life-saving messaging, IEC materials on earthquake safety and protection, mental health, water purification, GBV and protection, etc.



### **Save the Children's Response:**

Save the Children dispatched an emergency response team within 24 hours, and the team reached the affected children and families with relief materials within 36 hours of the disaster's onset. Save the Children was one of the first agencies to distribute relief materials to the affected population.

Save the Children has successfully distributed the first round of humanitarian relief in the earthquake-affected areas of

Jajarkot. The relief packages were delivered to 71 households in Bheri Municipality, Ward No. 1 of Rimna on November 5 and to an additional 40 households on November 6, 2023.

Save the Children will provide a complete relief package to 700 affected families, including 450 in Bheri Municipality of Jajarkot, 100 families in Kushe Rural Municipality of Jajarkot, and 150 families in Sani Bheri Municipality, Rukum West. These packages include essential items such as shelter and hygiene kits, blankets, baby essentials, winterization kits, kitchen utensils, and various other non-food items.

Save the Children remains committed to working alongside the local government, District Disaster Management Committee, and concerned stakeholders to provide ongoing support to the children and communities most affected by the earthquake. Save the Children is also leading the Shelter Cluster at the provincial level and contributing to other clusters.

### **Government Efforts:**

- Leading the cluster and coordinating meetings.
- All tiers of government are facilitating humanitarian agencies to ensure a timely and effective response.
- The one-door policy has been officially endorsed.
- Coordinating with government authorities and humanitarian agencies.
- Nepal Oil Corporation has announced its support for aircraft fuel used in response activities from its CSR fund.
- Several provincial ministries have also pledged additional funding.
- Various local governments, including Kathmandu Metropolitan City, have dispatched relief materials to the affected communities.
- Security personnel are assisting in the establishment of temporary shelters following the completion of search and rescue operations.
- NDRRMA is coordinating assessments and collaborating with government authorities and humanitarian agencies.

### **Efforts from Humanitarian Agencies:**

- Various humanitarian agencies, including Save the Children, UN agencies, and Nepal Red Cross Society, are on the ground to provide humanitarian assistance. Most of them have started providing services and distributing relief materials.
- Humanitarian agencies are also co-leading the clusters and actively participating in cluster coordination and needs assessments across different sectors, sharing updates.
- The 4Ws (Who is doing What, Where, and When) is being updated by different organizations within each cluster. The 4Ws will also be updated at the provincial level. The progress update is yet to be consolidated.

### Private Sector Efforts:

- The private sector and individuals have also activated humanitarian assistance to the impacted communities. Today, Buddha Air, one of the private aircraft, announced its support of 10 million NPR to the affected communities.
- Individual people, communities, and networks are also providing financial support, food, and non-food items to the affected communities.

### Cluster Updates:

- All clusters were activated on November 4th, and cluster meetings are being organized by relevant line ministries. Members, including co-leads, actively participate in these cluster meetings.
- Each cluster is organizing separate coordination meetings to avoid duplication and ensure an effective and timely response.
- Clusters are awaiting the Initial Rapid Assessment (IRA) Report and other relevant data to plan additional assistance.
- The Cash Coordination Group has organized a meeting for a possible Cash and Voucher Assessment. They have agreed to conduct a market assessment, and discussions are underway to set a transfer value for multipurpose cash grants and sectoral CVA interventions. The CCG is also coordinating with government authorities.
- Save the Children leads the shelter cluster in Karnali Province. The cluster has identified tarpaulins, warm clothes, blankets for children and families, as well as temporary WASH facilities like bathing stations and temporary toilets, as immediate needs.
- In the Protection Cluster, psychosocial first aid for children and families who have lost family members has been identified as an immediate need. Similarly, the care and referral of children who have lost their parents is necessary. Setting up mechanisms for protection, messaging, and raising awareness on various issues, such as, abuse and trafficking need to be disseminated in the affected communities. Child-friendly and women-friendly spaces are also required.
- The WASH cluster has identified the need for repairing and managing water facilities as an immediate priority. Water purification materials and awareness initiatives are also required, along with hygiene kits.
- Schools in the earthquake-affected area are damaged. The Education Cluster is planning temporary learning centers and has assessed the losses. They have collected prepositioned stock data to reestablish education in emergencies.

### Accessibility:

- Telephone networks are working, and the internet is under maintenance. Nepal Telecom offers free phone and SMS for five days in affected areas. Service providers must provide focal point names and contact numbers. WFP satellite phones are ready if needed.
- An alternative road route has been arranged at Rimna Bridge.

### Media, Communications, and Community Engagement:

- Local radios are active in disseminating news and updates on the earthquake situation and relief actions. However, targeted earthquake messages have not been broadcast.
- Community engagement and awareness regarding protection, care, and psychosocial well-being is required and should be prioritized.

### On-ground Accounts:



"Children and communities affected by the earthquake find themselves exposed to the elements, enduring harsh cold while awaiting relief assistance. We are deeply concerned about the profound impact of this catastrophe on children's psychosocial well-being and overall health. There is an urgent need to ensure the safety and protection of children, as disasters increase their vulnerability, leaving them susceptible to trafficking, abuse, violations, and severe mental distress."

"We have received reports from the field about the scarcity of safe drinking water, and the absence of pure drinking water may lead to an increase in cases of diarrhea and other waterborne diseases. With most toilets destroyed, there is a concerning rise in open defecation."

"My family and I were buried under the rubble after the earthquake. When I regained consciousness, I asked about my 1-year-old son. Luckily, we were rescued early and are alive now. Our house completely collapsed, and we spent the last night under the open sky. Today we received a tarpaulin, so we'll set it up and spend the night inside. There's no accounting for the loss; everyone is very scared, but we are glad that we at least have a tent to sleep in."

### Media Interview:

Heather Campbell, the Country Director of Nepal, and Bhutan Country Office, spoke to ABC Media in Australia about the earthquake and the situation and children on November 6, 2023.

### Save the Children's Capacity:

- Save the Children has a team of 122 members trained in Emergency Response and nearly 10,000 kits prepositioned across 5 different geographic locations.

- Save the Children is working in close collaboration with the local governments of the affected districts and has dispatched a humanitarian response team along with the response materials.
- Save the Children is leading the Shelter Cluster and participating in other cluster and coordination meetings at the national, provincial, and local levels.
- ACCM team will be activating Risk Communications and Community Engagement (RCCE) actions, which includes, production and broadcast of critical life-saving messages from local radio, and development and distribution of IEC materials on water purification, mental health, and the protection of children from abuse and trafficking, etc.

### **Challenges:**

- Data discrepancies
- Assessments
- Funding

### **Risks to Children and Families:**

- Cold-related illnesses like pneumonia
- Waterborne diseases
- Chances of epidemics and health hazards due to open defecation, lack of proper management of dead livestock
- Risk of children being abused and trafficked

### **For more information, media spokespersons are available:**

- Heather Campbell, Country Director of Nepal and Bhutan Country Office, Save the Children
- Sanjeeb Kumar Shakya, Sr. Humanitarian Manager, Save the Children
- Ratna Raj Ojha, Head of Program Operations, Surkhet Field Office

**For any queries or information on the response, contact Ayush Joshi, Director of Advocacy, Communications, Campaigns, and Media (ACCM), at [ayush.joshi@savethechildren.org](mailto:ayush.joshi@savethechildren.org).**

**For more updates on the Jajarkot earthquake response, follow Save the Children Nepal on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram.**

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