



Responding to Earthquake-Affected Communities and Households in Nepal (REACH)

QUARTERLY PROGRAM REPORT

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ACRONYMS AND TRANSLATIONS

AIN	Association of INGOs in Nepal
CDO	Chief District Officer
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
GoN	Government of Nepal
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
HH	Households
HNDC	Healthy Nepal Development Centre
HoH	Head of Household
KLL	Kathmandu Living Labs
NFRI	Non-Food Relief Items
MOF	Ministry of Finance
NPC	National Planning Commission
NRCS	Nepal Red Cross Society
SACCO	Savings and Credit Cooperative
SWC	Social Welfare Council
VDC	Village Development Committee
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

GENERAL INFORMATION

Project name:	Responding to Earthquake-Affected Communities and Households in Nepal (REACH)
Duration:	May 5, 2015 to November 5, 2015 ¹
Funding:	Total funding: 1,000,000.00 USAID: 1,000,000.00
Direct Beneficiaries:	3,500 Heads of Households (HoH) from homes either partially damaged or totally destroyed.
Indirect:	27,478 individuals in 7 VDCs across Sindhupalchowk and Dolakha
Reporting period:	October 1, 2015 to November 5, 2015.

Target area:

District	VDC	Activities
Sindhupalchowk	Karthali	All activities completed ²
	Ramche	All activities completed
	Ghumtang	All activities completed
	Maneswor	All activities completed
Dolakha	Melung	All activities completed
	Chyama	All activities completed
	Sahare	All activities completed

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In a span of less than three weeks, two major earthquakes – measuring 7.8 and 7.3 in magnitude – and a continuing series of serious aftershocks jolted Nepal, affecting more than eight million people. In the days immediately following the first earthquake, Mercy Corps conducted rapid needs assessments in seven of the impacted districts. The teams found massive destruction to houses, productive assets, shops and other infrastructure. In addition to the physical damage caused by the earthquakes, levels of fear, anger, frustration and hopelessness among the population rose in the face of a system that has until now struggled to meet their immediate and medium-term needs. Based on initial assessments,

¹ On July 9, 2015, a no-cost extension was granted to extend the program's end date for an additional three months to November 5, 2015.

² All distributions and post-distribution monitoring were complete by end of September, 2015

conducted in coordination with the district-level government, the primary needs of those affected by the earthquake include basic goods, shelter, water, sanitation, hygiene, health and food.

In order that the affected populations in Nepal are able to meet their basic needs and recover from the effects of the 2015 earthquakes, Mercy Corps, supported by the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), is implementing the *Responding to Earthquake-Affected Communities and Households in Nepal (REACH)* program. The program focuses on emergency response interventions in the sectors of Shelter and Settlements and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) to help affected households, and communities recover from the effects of the earthquakes, while also working to stimulate local-level businesses and markets. The program provides necessary temporary shelter materials to affected households through the distribution of kits with non-food relief items (NFRI), as well as a one-time \$75 cash transfer to enable households to meet their individually prioritized needs. In addition to this, Mercy Corps and implementing partners are providing materials and training to build latrines for vulnerable households and raise awareness about proper hygiene through the distribution of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials, combined with improved access to sanitation facilities where appropriate.

During the third quarter, Mercy Corps did not conduct any activities. All distributions and post-distribution monitoring activities were completed by end of September, 2015. All distributions were conducted between July 10 and August 28, post-distribution monitoring taking place within two weeks of the distribution date. All activities were completed by September 14, 2015. Findings from the post-distribution monitoring and focus groups will be included in the analysis in the final report.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Summary

Period	Activities
Q3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All activities were completed before Q3

Sub-sector 1.1 Emergency Transitional Shelter

All activities, including monitoring, were completed before Q3

Sub-Sector 2.1 Sanitation Infrastructure

All activities, including monitoring, were completed before Q3

Sub-Sector 2.2 Hygiene Promotion

All activities, including monitoring, were completed before Q3

Program Impact

Mercy Corps reached 17,500 people with NFRI kits and cash transfers, 4,767 people with access to a safe and sanitary latrine and reached 9,978 people with a hygiene and sanitation promotional campaign. As some activities were overlapping, OFDA and Mercy Corps reached more than 29,500 unique beneficiaries with critical support in the wake of the earthquake.

In the final report, Mercy Corps will discuss program impact, identify opportunities and constraints and detail lessons learned in order to document the specific events that hindered or supported the progress of REACH goals. The final report will address the various implementation challenges, lessons learned, and findings from our data collection sessions with beneficiaries on the impact of these services.

Performance against Indicators

SECTOR: Shelter and Settlements						
Beneficiaries Targeted	17,500 (3,500 HH)					
Beneficiaries Reached	17,500 (3,500 HH)					
Indicator	Baseline	Cumulative Target	Q1 Performance	Q2 Performance	Q3 Performance	Notes
SUB-SECTOR: Emergency Transitional Shelter						
Number of households in the program area receiving emergency/transitional shelter	0	3,500	0	3,500	0	Consolidated NFRI kit and unconditional cash distributions initiated on July 10 and were completed by August 28
Number of households in the program area receiving emergency/transitional shelter pursuant to Sphere Project standards and FOG guidelines	0	3,500	0	3,500	0	Consolidated NFRI kit and unconditional cash distributions initiated on July 10 and were completed by August 28
Percentage of total affected population in the program area receiving emergency/transitional shelter assistance, by sex	0	100%	0	100% (50% female, 50% male)	0	Sex disaggregated data by household is gathered at registration and distribution.
Total USD amount and percentage of approved project budget for emergency/transitional shelter spent on goods and services produced in the affected host country economy	0	326,053 USD 100%	0	326,053 USD 100%	0	Consolidated kits included items approved for purchase with OFDA funds and additional items purchased with private funds. All items included in OFDA kits were procured locally.
Additional Program Indicators						
Total amount of cash (\$) transferred to beneficiaries (disaggregated by sex)	0	\$262,500	0	\$262,500 (\$131,250 female, \$131,250 male)	0	Unconditional cash transfers were distributed at household level.
SECTOR: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)						

Beneficiaries Targeted	17,500 (3,500 HH)					
Beneficiaries Reached	27,478					
Indicator	Baseline	Target	Q1 Performance	Q2 Performance	Q3 Performance	Notes
SUB-SECTOR: Sanitation Infrastructure						
Number of people directly benefiting from the sanitation infrastructure program	n/a	4,000	0	4,767	0	
SUB-SECTOR: Hygiene Promotion						
Number of people receiving direct hygiene promotion (excluding mass media campaigns and without double-counting)	0	17,500	0	27,478	0	3,500 HH (17,500 people) received hygiene kits. Additional hygiene promotion activities reached 9,978 people.
Number of respondents who know three of five critical times to wash hands	n/a	0 ³	0	9,978	0	

³ At time of proposal submission, hygiene promotion activities beyond the distribution of hygiene kits were undefined. Implementing a hygiene promotion campaign required significantly more collaboration with local government institutions and health organizations as well as mobilization of local partners. It was unclear at time of submission whether many government agencies and health organizations could operate at full capacity in the wake of the earthquake. As a result, initial targets for this indicator were not set. Mercy Corps is discussing how to incorporate this indicator into our recovery programming with funds provided from private donations.