Nepal Earthquake Response

DTM Nepal Report
Round 1
2-7th May 2015
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SUMMARY

Population Tracking
- Out of the 5783 IDPs and 53 sites covered by the DTM, 98% of sites are spontaneous settlements and 2% collective centres. There are no formal camps.

CCCM
- In Kathmandu, 6% of sites reported having some camp management arrangement; Lalitpur reported 20% and Bhaktapur 0%.

Health
- Only 25% of sites in Kathmandu reported having no access to either a local clinic or a mobile service, and Bhaktapur sites reported 84% access. Lalitpur sites were found to have the highest access, at 94%.
- The most commonly reported health problem is a cold/flu, followed by diarrhoea and fever with rash.

Shelter/NFI
- The majority of sites in Kathmandu and Lalitpur report houses as completely destroyed. In Bhaktapur, destruction is significantly less.
- Kathmandu sites reported to possess the least amount of NFIs. Mosquito nets and tools for construction were found to be the least possessed NFIs overall.

WASH
- 48% of sites in Kathmandu meet Sphere standards of 1 toilet per 20 individuals, 80% sites in Bhaktapur and 16% sites in Lalitpur.
- All districts report insufficient water supply and poor water quality. Sites in Kathmandu and Bhaktapur have no sex segregated toilets. 26% of sites in Lalitpur have sex segregated toilets.

Food
- 21% of sites in Kathmandu report access to a local market, followed by 15% in Lalitpur and 6% in Bhaktapur. No more than 20% of sites report having received food through a distribution.
- The method for accessing food for the majority of sites is through cash purchase or cultivation. Bhaktapur relies heavily (80%) on cash for food.

Education
- Schools in Nepal were not open to students at the time the DTM was conducted.
- No sites report availability of formal or informal education.

Protection
- 9% of sites in Kathmandu were found to have some form of security, 16% in Bhaktapur and 13% in Lalitpur. There are no reports of friction with host communities, however, 21% of sites in Kathmandu report friction within the camp population, 13% in Lalitpur and 0% in Bhaktapur.
**INTRODUCTION**

On the 25th April 2015, Nepal experienced a 7.8 magnitude earthquake. The effect on the local population has been enormous. Many casualties, injuries and displacements are reported. On the 12th May another major earthquake struck, adding to the severity of the situation in Nepal.

The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is designed to regularly capture, process, and disseminate information to provide a better understanding of the evolving needs of a displaced population. The DTM is an information management tool, rolled out in the immediate aftermath of the Nepal earthquake by the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) cluster to gather baseline information on the nature of displacement, mobility of population, needs and gaps. The DTM is designed to complement the Government of Nepal’s current data collection by identifying and then systematically monitoring displacement sites in rounds, in order to track mobility and changes in needs. Sites will be monitored in a four week cycle, enabling trend analysis.

The DTM for Nepal will focus on monitoring concentrated sites, where they exist. Concentrated sites include spontaneous settlements and collective centres (people living away from their homes, in schools or other public buildings), where immediate needs for basic services, protection and site facilitation are likely to be greater.

The majority of those forced from their homes as a result of the earthquake are not living in concentrated displacement sites. They are dispersed across the urban and rural areas, opting to remain in villages or neighbourhoods next to their destroyed or damaged homes, in temporary or makeshift shelters. These people have urgent and specific needs, which should be monitored by Government and appropriate clusters.

From 29 April, 53 sites have been identified and assessed in Kathmandu valley. Outside of the valley, DTM teams have deployed to Gorkha, Sindhupalchok, Makwanpur, Kavre, Ramechhap and Dadhing, with data soon to be collated. Teams are expanding to cover the other priority districts in the coming weeks. This will allow the comparison of regional and urban sites, and potentially providing reasons for displacement.

A follow up phase of intentions survey at the household level will be conducted as part of the second round targeting prioritised sites. This survey will be conducted in complement to ongoing assessment efforts in order to further support the decision making of humanitarian and early recovery actors. The survey is designed to determine in greater detail the characteristics of residual populations one month after the earthquake, their plans and needs.

**DTM ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES**

- Identify and verify locations where displaced people are residing in concentrated sites. Assessments to cover various factors including mobility, sex age breakdown, vulnerabilities, access to services and needs.

**DTM ASSESSMENT CHALLENGES**

- The scale and spread of earthquake impact has slowed coverage of the DTM. Mountainous, remote affected areas in the north are only accessible by foot. These challenges are being met through forging of partnerships at the local level.

**POPULATION MOVEMENTS AND TRENDS**

While the earthquake has forced people from their homes in great numbers, resulting in massive need with shelter as priority, it has not generated a displacement crisis. The majority are living next to their destroyed or damaged homes in temporary shelters, dispersed across the urban and rural areas. Urgent and specific needs exist for
them, notably shelter, protection and WASH, but they have not had to leave their property, and most can access their pre-existing resources and facilities.

The numbers of persons gathering in open spaces peaked in the immediate wake of the earthquake, and have dropped quickly since. On 28 April, the number of persons in the open spaces ranged from 500 – 4,000 people in Kathmandu valley, already representing a reduction of approximately 40 – 60% since 26 April. In both rural and urban areas, people sought the safety of open spaces to weather the aftershocks for up to a week after the quake. Most returned home, or have been able to set up temporary shelters outside their homes. Since the 12th May high magnitude earthquake, there is a widespread return to open space shelters from those who fear the structures they usually live in are unsafe.

In the urban areas of Kathmandu valley, residual populations remain in spontaneous settlements and collective centres. These people likely consist of the urban poor whose owned or rented accommodations have been destroyed or severely damaged as well as owners of destroyed and severely damaged houses, requiring structural assessments and possible demolition and reconstruction. Most urban poor, such as unskilled day labourers, were renters in Kathmandu’s older settlements, areas most severely affected by the earthquake. With these houses uninhabitable now, this displaced population group face the additional challenge of securing alternative accommodation in a restricted and inflated rental market on top of restoring livelihood and access to basic services.

In rural areas, spontaneous settlements are being identified in areas where destruction is greater, and where hills and mountainsides have become unstable from the earthquake. Those identified so far range from 100 to 800 people, some containing groups from surrounding villages. In the high altitude regions in the North there are reports of whole villages moving away from unstable areas, deciding on locations to rebuild. Separation of Dalit into a distinct site has been noted in one VDC.

In addition, some transit sites are emerging at points where landslides have blocked roads, adding temporary pressure on community coping capacities. These points are becoming pick-up points for aid, which is then transported back up to affected mountain villages by foot. Since the earthquake, movement trend of many thousands have also been observed, population moving to reside with relatives in other safer areas and those moving to visit family, from Kathmandu to the districts and back.

The bond between Nepalis and their land is a strong message, especially in rural areas. Nonetheless, with the arrival of monsoon season, concerns exist about the potential for secondary displacement particularly in areas more severely affected by the earthquake should people be unable to restore sufficient shelter in time and should the market access for basic needs are not recovered. The extent of such a potential movement is not yet clear.

The CCCM Cluster will continue to monitor mobility, and will focus on contingency planning for monsoon.

**Methodology**

The DTM consists of a rapid site assessment tool based on key informant interviews (with community leaders, local government authorities and/or site residents) verified by direct observation of available services and living conditions in sites. The assessment is supplemented by detailed sex age disaggregated demographic information drawn from 40% of households within each site. The rapid assessment includes identification of protection risks and gender based violence risk factors, to be referred to appropriate actors for mitigation and/or response.

The CCCM cluster has been collecting information with the DTM since the 28th April, and this report covers preliminary site assessments made between the 2nd and 7th May in the Kathmandu valley only. The Kathmandu
valley is defined as three districts made up of Bhaktapur, Lalitpur and Kathmandu. The data presented here comes from a sample size of 53 sites and 5783 internally displaced persons (IDPs).

DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

The breakdown of the demographic in the Kathmandu valley, during early May of 2015, is displayed in Figure 2. The reported sex ratio in Nepal is 54.2% women and 45.8% men [Census, 2011]. From the population sampled living in concentrated sites in Kathmandu Valley by the DTM, the ratio is an even 50/50.

There is a larger ratio of people older than 59 in Kathmandu and Lalitpur than in Bhaktapur. There are fewer people below the age of 18 in Bhaktapur compared to the other districts. Lalitpur has the largest percentage of people aged below 18. Lalitpur has the lowest ratio of those aged between 18 and 59.
FINDINGS BY SECTOR

I. SITE TYPE AND MANAGEMENT

There are no reports of sites with formal management structures provided by NGOs, government entities or religious groups. The vast majority of sites are spontaneous whereas 2% are collective centres – see Figure 3. The majority of people are displaced in a settlement close by or adjacent to their affected home. This leaves the displaced less vulnerable as some of their normal systems and social circles are available.

II. HEALTH

Health services in the Kathmandu valley are accessible for most IDPs. Only 25% of sites in Kathmandu reported having no access to either a local clinic or a mobile service, and Bhaktapur sites reported 84% access. Lalitpur sites were found to have even more access, at 94%.

The most common health problems reported are summarised in Figure 4. The most common condition is a cold/flu, followed by diarrhoea and fever with rash. The high percentage of cold/flu reports is reasonable if the living conditions of IDPs are considered. Most IDPs are living outside and under shelter that is not adequate enough to shield them from the elements. In combination with poor nutrition, this leaves the affected vulnerable to the common cold. Diarrhoea may be linked to poor sanitation conditions and the consumption of unhygienic food.
III. SHELTER & NFIs

The first earthquake has caused significant damage to many homes in the Kathmandu valley. Figure 5 shows the percentage of sites with fully destroyed homes. According to the DTM, Kathmandu sites were worst affected, followed by Lalitpur and Bhaktapur. The widespread situation in the Kathmandu valley is generally better than reported here. Findings show more destruction due to the bias of the areas being assessed. Those less affected are less likely to be sampled by the DTM.

An assessment of the non-food items (NFIs) was also conducted to understand the approximate proportion of households in possession of core NFI items, not which NFIs were distributed. Findings are shown in Figures 6, 7, and 8. Questions are answered with ‘All’, ‘Some’ or ‘None’ conditions for each NFI. Note: fuel is considered an item that can be used for cooking (i.e. wood, coal or gas).

Overall, the sites assessed in Kathmandu district were found to possess fewer NFIs than the districts of Bhaktapur and Lalitpur. Mosquito nets and tools for construction were found as the least possessed items at sites. The lack
of mosquito nets correlates with other findings where close to 100% of all sites in the Kathmandu valley reported a problem with mosquitos.

IV. WASH

Water supply is found to be below demand and the quality of drinking water was found to be inadequate in most sites (Figure 9). Water quality is however shown to be much higher in Lalitpur. Containers used to carry water are available in all sites in Bhaktapur and Lalitpur districts, but only to approximately 50% of sites surveyed in Kathmandu district.

The DTM counted the number of functioning toilets, and when compared to the Sphere standard of one toilet for 20 individuals, results vary. Bhaktapur current has 80% of the recommended number of toilets for its population of displaced persons. Lalitpur has a shortage. Both Bhaktapur and Kathmandu sites do not have sex segregated toilets for men and women.

In regards to the distribution of hygiene items, the DTM found an inadequate supply of soap and sanitary pads in Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Lalitpur districts.

V. Food

Key informants were asked about access to local markets to purchase food. Sites within Bhaktapur report having complete access to food (Figure 10). IDPs within the Kathmandu valley should have access to food through their normal channels; however, the availability of cash to purchase food is likely to be limited by the lack of job opportunities.
In regards to the distribution of food items to sites, very few sites in Bhaktapur district reported receiving food through distribution in comparison to Kathmandu and Lalitpur. Figure 11 demonstrates the most common method IDPs utilize to access food. Bhaktapur and other sites appear to have a significant dependency on cash. This is of concern at a time when the affected population have no means of livelihood.

![Access to food](image)

**VI. PROTECTION**

No sites reported friction with host communities; however sites within Kathmandu and Lalitpur have reported issues within camps. The lack of any friction with a host community is very likely in this situation as most sites are spontaneously spread over places of habitual residences. All three districts reported security concerns (Figure 12).

![Protection related findings](image)

**CONCLUSION**

Priorities are to provide food access, and livelihood to provide income. Health access is good and reports of conditions are understandable. Water supply remains insufficient, the installation of water sources is required to utilise IDP possession of buckets. Tools and mosquito nets are needed along with, sanitary pads, soap and segregated toilets.

For comments, questions or more information, please contact cccm.nepal.imu@gmail.com

The raw dataset can be accessed at https://tinyurl.com/NepalDTM
### ANNEX

#### Table 1: Detailed sex age breakdown by district and VDC

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