

Nepal – Earthquake

Local ETC Working Group meeting #13

Date: 13/08/15 TIME: 10:00 UTC +5:45

Attendance

ETC	Caroline Teyssier, ETC Coordinator [Chair] OzdzanHadziemin, ICT Emergency Coordinator (WFP) Christer Wessberg, ETC Team Leader
Ericsson Response	MarianPifko, ETC Technician
New Zealand Red Cross	Rod Gribble, Steve Davis
Plan International	SundarKarki

Agenda

- Introduction of new staff
- Update from ETC Coordinator
- Updates from participants
- AOB

Minutes

Update from the ETC Coordinator

- OzdzanHadziemin introduced:
 - Caroline Teyssier, the new ETC Coordinator, replacing HaidarBaqir;
 - Christer Wessberg, the new Team Leader, replacing William Twyford;
 - Marian Pifko, Ericsson Response going to Gorkha.
- The ETC remains operational in 14 Sites across the three main common operational areas: Gorkha, Chautara and Charikot.
- ETC is putting together the transition plan. The services will remain until end of September and should be transitioned to either ISPs or a type of cost-sharing arrangements if required longer.

- In Charikot and Chautara, the IHP camps were confirmed to be extended until mid-October and ETC is looking at continuing services in these 2 locations in line with this timeframe.
- The Ku-band VSAT that WFP deployed to either support the agency or ETC services will be upgraded to provide a bandwidth of 4up/2down. This includes Dunche where IFRC is using services. The team is waiting for confirmation per site and will confirm to all details.
- On the VHF coverage, ETC will engage with UNDSS to hand over the equipment and services is possible. Modality on whether the 3 additional repeaters installed will be used beyond end of September needs to be confirmed.
 - IFRC asked to be kept in the loop of these discussions as they had agreement with UNDSS prior the earthquake.
 - It was confirmed that some repeaters installed are Digital but the network is working on Analogue
 - It was confirmed that no licenses were requested as there were already some available.

Updates from participants

IFRC

- Rod Gribble introduced Steve Davis who is going to replace him as IFRC deployment team leader until the end of September 2015.
- Dhunche Ku-band VSAT issue is now solved. IFRC mentioned they are also using Ku-band for operations. They will share specifics for ETC information.
- IFRC confirmed that the emergency operation will be closing at the end of August. Some long-term programme will remain including a hospital in Dunche.
- Nepal VHF coverage map was received.
- IFRC has 2-two long term sites: Singati (near Charikot) and Chautara
 - In Singati, the VSAT will be operational until end of September – no ISP can support the location for now.
 - In Chautara, IFRC is already using Local ISP services.
- One of their project is also to reconcile the usage of different ISPs in Kathmandu for longer-term.
- IFRC confirmed that 2sat phones were provided by NetHope but would appreciate confirmation from ETC whether these are donated or should be returned.

Plan International

- Plan has 2 offices: 1 in Singati and 1 in Chautara.
- They confirmed using one of the Thuraya IP provided by NetHope on a need basis.
 - They asked ETC to confirm how long the activation was for and how long it takes to re-activate it if needed.



AOB

- The Local Working Group meetings will now be held every three weeks.

Next Local Working Group Meeting will be held on Thursday 3 September 2015 at: 11:00 Local Time.

Acronyms

ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IFRC	International Federation of the Red Cross
SP	Samaritan's Purse
ISP	Internet Services Provider
IT	Information Technology
VHF	Very High Frequency radio
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal
WFP	World Food Programme

All information related to ETC operations can be found on the website: www.ETCluster.org

For more information, or to be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact: Nepal.ETC@wfp.org