

Nepal - Earthquake

ETC Situation Report #12

Reporting period 01/07/2015 to 14/07/2015

These Situation Reports are distributed every two weeks. The next report will be issued on or around 29/07/15.

Highlights

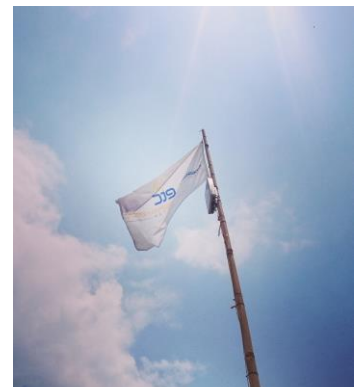
- The ETC is now providing internet connectivity in 13 sites across three common operating areas in Nepal – Gorkha, Chautara and Charikot.
- ETC services at Bidur and Arughat have now been demobilised as local services in both areas are restored.
- The ETC Transition Strategy has been finalised and shared with all partners.

Situation Overview

Nearing the three month-mark since a 7.8-magnitude earthquake struck Nepal, the ETC operation is stabilizing and focusing on mid-September when the ETC plans to demobilize its services in line with the humanitarian action plan.

In the meantime, the ETC continues to provide internet connectivity and security telecommunications to humanitarians operating in Nepal through the use of VSATs, wireless links and, where possible, local ISPs. To mitigate any challenges that may occur during the monsoon season, a series of assessments have been carried out in ETC sites to ensure that equipment is kept safe and dry.

The ETC Transition Strategy has been finalised and shared with all partners.



The ETC flag in Chautara
Humanitarian Hub

Photo: Ericsson Response/Martin
Falebrand



Response

- The ETC is providing shared internet connectivity services in 13 sites across three common operating areas, including Gorkha, Charikot and Chautara.
 - ETC services have been demobilized in Bidur and Arughat as local services were restored in both areas and the existing needs do not warrant ETC support.
 - Security telecommunications continue to be provided in the three common operating areas to ensure the safety and security of humanitarians operating in those areas.
 - The ETC will continue to demobilise its satellite kits as soon as local ISP services are restored.
- Ericsson Response WIDER is managing access to the ETC network. Over 1319 users from 140 response organisations have registered to use ETC services so far.
- The ETC has finalised the Transition Strategy document and has shared it with partners.
 - The document details plans to demobilize all services and equipment by 15 September and to carry out a needs assessment on 1 September to determine whether this plan is realistic or whether the services need extending.

Planned Response

- Plans to establish ETC services at the new IHP camp in Chautara are still in place.

Challenges

- Monsoon season is approaching which will not only exacerbate existing logistics challenges but also potentially hamper accessibility to ETC sites.

Meetings

- The last local ETC Working Group meeting was held on 9 July. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 23 July.
- It was agreed to hold the Nepal Global ETC teleconferences monthly. The next Global ETC teleconference will be held on Wednesday 5 August.

Information

- ICT responders operating on the ground in Nepal are encouraged to share their contact details with Nepal.ETC@wfp.org to facilitate local coordination.



-
- Dedicated information-sharing space has been created on the ETC website: <http://ictemergency.wfp.org/web/ictopr/emergencies2015/nepal>. Organisations involved in the ICT response are encouraged to share updates with the ETC community to support the overall coordination.
 - **ETC Nepal services map:** <http://ictemergency.wfp.org/documents/10844/3fdd4105-b6c1-4fd9-a190-8189fd8a1cdc>
 - **ETC Nepal factsheet:** <http://ictemergency.wfp.org/documents/10844/1a94cf5c-5aa0-4491-b5cc-33b5dbc462cb>

Shared ICT Services

	DISTRICT, TOWN	LOCATION	PROVIDED BY	SERVICES	EQUIPMENT	CUSTOMER
1	Sindhupalchok, CHAUTARA	Humanitarian Hub	emergency.lu, Ericsson Response, ISP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • Security telecommunications 	VSAT, WIDER	Humanitarian community
2		Save the Children/Nepal Red Cross	emergency.lu, Ericsson Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • Security telecommunications 	Wireless link	Humanitarian community
3	Gorkha, GORKHA	Sub-OSOCC	NetHope, Ericsson Response, ISP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • Security telecommunications 	VSAT, WIDER	Humanitarian community
	Gorkha, ARUGHAT	ETC services have been decommissioned				
4	Gorkha, DEURALI	Save the Children (2x offices) & Logs Hub	WFP, Ericsson Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • Security telecommunications 	Wireless link, WIDER	Humanitarian community
5	Dolakha, CHARIKOT	NGO hub	WFP, Plan International, Ericsson Response,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • Security telecommunications 	VSAT, WIDER	Humanitarian community
6		Sub-OSOCC	WFP, Plan International, Ericsson Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • Security telecommunications 	Wireless link	Humanitarian community
7		Humanitarian camp	WFP, Plan International, Ericsson Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • Security telecommunications 	Wireless link	Humanitarian community
8		Field hospital	WFP, Plan International, Ericsson Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • Security telecommunications 	Wireless link	Humanitarian community

9		Samaritan's Purse + MSF	WFP, Plan International, Ericsson Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • Security telecommunications 	Wireless link	Humanitarian community
10		IHP camp	emergency.lu, Ericsson Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • Security telecommunications 	VSAT, WIDER	Humanitarian community
11		IFRC office (x2)	WFP, Plan International, Ericsson Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • Security telecommunications 	Wireless link	Humanitarian community
	Nuwakot, BIDUR	ETC services have been decommissioned				
12	Kathmandu, KATHMANDU	Humanitarian Staging Area (HSA)	ISP, Ericsson Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity 	VSAT, WIDER	Humanitarian community
13	Rasuwa, DHUNCHE	NGO hub	IFRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity 	VSAT	Humanitarian community



Contacts

Nepal.ETC@wfp.org

Ozdzan Hadziemin, ETC Coordinator

ozdzan.hadziemin@wfp.org

Mobile: +977 981 0147 916

Suzanne Fenton, ETC Information Management Officer

suzanne.fenton@wfp.org

Mobile: +971 56 6529560

Acronyms

BGAN	Broadband Global Area Network – <i>portable global satellite internet network with telephony</i>
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
GSM	Global System for Mobile communications
HSA	Humanitarian Staging Area
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
ISP	Internet Services Provider
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OSOCC	On-Site Operations Coordination Centre
UN	United Nations
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal – <i>satellite equipment to provide internet connectivity</i>
WFP	World Food Programme

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

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

Background on the emergency:

On 25 April (11:56, UTC+5:45), a 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal with the epicentre located 81 km northwest of the capital city of Kathmandu. The earthquake severely impacted 13 out of the 75 districts in the country. Hundreds of aftershocks have been reported including a 6.7 magnitude earthquake. With the severe devastation of the disaster, the Government of Nepal requested for international humanitarian support on 26 April. The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) was activated on 27 April to provide:

1. Internet connectivity in hubs and operational areas.
2. Security communications network in remote areas.
3. Technical training of humanitarian staff, upskilling local personnel and ensuring sustainability of solutions after the emergency period.
4. Strengthening of disaster response capacity for the Nepali authorities.

The World Food Programme (WFP) is co-leading the ETC in Nepal with the Ministry of Information and Communications.

Sources: OCHA Nepal Earthquake sitrep, Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)