

Nepal - Earthquake

ETC Situation Report #09

Reporting period 10/06/2015 to 16/06/2015

Highlights

- A team comprising ETC partners, Ericsson Response and emergency.lu has successfully installed an emergency.lu Rapid Deployment Kit in the new International Humanitarian Partnership (IHP) camp in Charikot.
- The ETC is providing shared internet connectivity and security telecommunications to the response community at 14 sites across three common operating areas in Nepal – Gorkha, Chautara and Charikot.
- Local ETC teams are carrying out a second round of assessments and updates at all sites to ensure services and equipment are running well in preparation for the monsoon.
- The ETC is currently hiring and training local personnel as part of its objective to build capacity within the humanitarian technical community to ensure the sustainability of deployed ETC services and solutions.

Situation Overview

The ETC continues to provide internet connectivity and security telecommunications to the response community 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 are being carried out in ETC sites to ensure that equipment is kept safe and dry.

The ETC continues to coordinate with humanitarian organisations, national internet and mobile services providers and government authorities for an efficient and effective ICT response.



ETC partners, emergency.lu and Ericsson Response install an emergency.lu satellite kit in the IHP in Charikot.

Photo: IHP/Kerstin Oldgren



Response

- The ETC has deployed and shared internet connectivity services in 14 sites across Nepal across three common operating areas, including Gorkha, Charikot and Chautara.
 - A team comprising Ericsson Response and emergency.lu successfully installed an emergency.lu Rapid Deployment Kit in the new International Humanitarian Partnership (IHP) camp in Charikot to provide internet connectivity to the humanitarian community operating there.
 - Security telecommunications continue to be provided in the three common operating areas to ensure the safety and security of humanitarians operating in those areas.
- Ericsson Response WIDER is managing access to the ETC network. Over 1000 users from 140 response organisations have registered to use ETC services so far.
- The ETC is currently hiring and training local personnel as part of its objective to build capacity within the humanitarian technical community to ensure the sustainability of deployed ETC services and solutions.

Planned Response

- Additional shared internet services are planned for:
 - 1x new IHP camp in Chautara
- The local ETC Working Group is currently preparing for an emergency preparedness workshop that will be held in Kathmandu on 18 June together with the government, MNOs, NGOs and other key ICT stakeholders.

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 11 June. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 25 June.
- The next Global ETC teleconference will be held on Wednesday 24 June.

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.



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- 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
4	Gorkha, ARUGHAT	NGO Hub	NetHope, Ericsson Response, MSF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity 	VSAT, WIDER	Humanitarian community
5	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
6	Dolakha, CHARIKOT	NGO hub	WFP, Plan International, Ericsson Response,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • Security telecommunications 	VSAT, WIDER	Humanitarian community
7		Sub-OSOCC	WFP, Plan International, Ericsson Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • Security telecommunications 	Wireless link	Humanitarian community
8		Humanitarian camp	WFP, Plan International, Ericsson Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • Security telecommunications 	Wireless link	Humanitarian community
9		Field hospital	WFP, Plan International, Ericsson Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • Security telecommunications 	Wireless link	Humanitarian community



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

Internet connectivity services provided at the Humanitarian Staging Area and Logistics Cluster Hubs are provided by the ETC, but **not** part of the ETC project budget. Services at these locations are budgeted as part of the Logistics Cluster project and are used to facilitate operations and inter-agency coordination at these sites.



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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)