



## *One Year Gone and Many Stories Follow: Documenting Stories of Nepal Earthquake 2015*

*This media monitoring report documents the stories published in online and social media about Nepal Earthquake 2015, especially marking one year of its occurrence. We present you a summary of stories covered by media agencies and development/humanitarian organizations about the earthquake, its subsequent effect and the attempts to recover from the rubble.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

One year has passed and earthquake has not left us. Aftershocks continue to convulse the country. The massive earthquake of 7.8 magnitude in the afternoon of April 25, 2015 does not seem to be a distant memory that took lives of about 9000 people and made more than 20000 people. Normalcy has not yet retained with slow pace of reconstruction but resilience in Nepali people to combat such natural disasters is praise worthy. We look into how development/humanitarian organizations and media agencies overview this period of one year – their stories of sorrow, relief, happiness and continuous struggle.

## 2. METHODS

In order to track the stories, we began media monitoring of **175 stories** extracted from major online news agencies and social media. The monitoring period was from **April 18 to 25, 2016**. Monitoring was conducted on the basis of real time recording of the news/articles in an MS Excel file. The collected articles were then read and synthesized in a narrative form drawing out major issues highlighted in those stories.

## 3. FINDINGS

### 3.1 MEDIA AGENCIES

#### 1. TIME Magazine

TIME magazine in its report mentions that [international donors](#) had pledged \$4.1 billion dollars as aid support to rebuild Nepal. However, it claims that the **money to rebuild homes has been held back** by Nepal's fractious politics, as the country's leaders engaged in a prolonged fight over a new constitution that triggered violent protests among communities living along the country's southern border with India. Time reports that except communities coming together for rebuilding work in Barpak, the quake epicenter, there has been **little sign of progress since last year**. As a result, survivors still have to suffer due to weak regulation and delay in relief by the government. According to the magazine, due to the unrest in Terai, fuel was rationed and hospitals ran low on essential medical supplies. NGOs based in Kathmandu then found themselves unable to distribute aid to the earthquake-affected regions.

#### 2. Nepali Times

According to Nepali Times, [Prime Minister K P Oli](#) had launched the government's rebuilding campaign in Bungmati in January, 2016. However, there has been no sign of any reconstruction there. Alike many families across the 14 earthquake affected districts, **families in Bungmati have got little else besides the Rs 15,000 emergency grant**. The National Reconstruction Authority has started giving out the first installment of the Rs 200,000 rebuilding grant, but so far only provided in Dolakha district.

Nepali Times reports that the most [painful lesson](#) taught by the earthquake and its aftermath is that the **people of Nepal can expect nothing from the state** or those they elected to power. It is an obvious charge of the state, that it has given citizens no reason to expect much from their elected representatives.

In terms of the destruction in schools, the [earthquake destroyed 4,000 schools](#) in 14 districts. It was **estimated that 75,000 children would have been dead if it hadn't been a Saturday**. Most of the schools in Sindhupalchowk have not been rebuilt, and classes are still held in temporary tin huts. Broken bricks, wooden beams and crushed furniture litter school grounds everywhere. Kathmandu Valley restoration can be an international showpiece, says award-winning heritage conservationist [Rohit Ranjitkar](#).

### 3. SBS Channel

[SBS Channel](#) also reports that a year on from Nepal's earthquake, **there's little progress in rebuilding physically or politically**. Immediately after the quake, the world had rushed to help in the rescue effort and almost \$4 billion was pledged in aid. But with a government infrastructure as shaky as the poorly-constructed buildings, efforts to rebuild have been hindered by bureaucracy and political power play.

### 4. The Himalayan Times

The Himalayan Times covers story about the '[Dignity First](#)' campaign that had been launched by the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare and United Nations Population Fund, after the devastating earthquake. For this campaign, Department of Women and Children partnered with UNFPA to **distribute kits containing clothes, sanitary items, and torch lights to women and girls in the quake-affected districts**. The news agency reported that the Women and Children Office this week distributed dignity kits to women and girls, mainly pregnant and lactating mothers. When the earthquake struck Nepal, [WFP](#) was among various other organizations that **provided emergency food assistance** to the affected people.

### 5. The Kathmandu Post

The Kathmandu Post has covered a series of stories about the reconstruction. A report talks of [preliminary reconstruction](#) of 10 damaged buildings, including heritage monuments, beginning with financial aid from the German government, nearly a year after the Gorkha Earthquake. Likewise, it also details about information from Department of Archaeology that the **German government has contributed Rs 1.19 billion** for the reconstruction project with **the government contributing Rs 220 million and Bhaktapur Municipality contributing Rs 100 million**. A team of experts are to carry out a detailed study for the complete reconstruction of the damaged sites for a month and a half after which main reconstruction work will begin. According to DoA, a total of 754 historical, cultural and religious monuments in 20 districts were damaged by the Gorkha Earthquake and its aftershocks.

Furthermore, a story emphasizes that even though the government has formally started a reconstruction and rebuilding drives nearly a year after the quake, it is **vital that the government expands it throughout the [urban stretch of the Valley](#) and to the districts hit hard by the quake**. According to another story, many quake-hit Dhading district farmers have been compensated for dead cattle. A total of 242 households from Sherthung, Tipling, Lapa, Jharlang and Ree VDCs have benefited from the programme. The cash aid was made with support from Brother's Brother Foundation, a US based charity.

## 6. Al Jazeera

According to Al Jazeera the devastation caused by the [worst earthquake](#) to hit Nepal in 80 years was catastrophic where more than 8,000 people were killed and hundreds of thousands left homeless. One year on, **many of those who survived still live in makeshift shelters**. Many are demanding to know why the government is not doing more to help.

[Al Jazeera](#) reports that almost a year has passed since 9,000 people died in the country and almost 900,000 homes were destroyed. Despite \$4.1bn in donations from the international community and promises by the government to rebuild, Al Jazeera claims that **very little reconstruction has been done** and even as reconstruction appears about to belatedly begin, there are more questions and contradictions than clarity over the rules for using (or misusing) all this cash. The damage the earthquake caused on ancient monuments looks set to be completed by bureaucratic insensitivity and a lowest-tender bidding process, which has already awarded the contract to re-erect dozens of collapsed temples to unqualified building contractors claims Al Jazeera.

## 7. Machhapuchhre FM

According to [Machhapuchhre FM](#) tourism is the lifeblood of the Nepalese economy, but since the earthquake in 2015 tourism has severely suffered. Almost a year later, **the country is still struggling to recover**. Along with the dip in tourist numbers, Nepal faces a host of challenges. The damaged road network requires huge investment. Some of the mountain passes previously used for trekking are still deemed unsafe, and the country's power infrastructure has never been reliable. On top of those concerns, **Nepal has been affected by a dispute with India which resulted in six months of trade restrictions**.

## 8. Express and Star

Express and Star cover an interesting story of a [Staffordshire humanitarian aid](#) worker Brian Beckett who reflects on the devastation and impact of the disaster. In the year following the deadly earthquake, the story covers how **emergency response has supported many vulnerable children and communities** through provision of emergency shelter, food and water, immediate access to temporary learning centers and safe spaces, psychosocial support, temporary educational facilities and health services. It has been observed that the construction of educational facilities has allowed over 20,000 children to resume their education immediately after the earthquake.

## 9. Atlas Lens

Atlas Lens also hits hard in terms of slow pace of the recovery work. It claims that **recovery is at a snail's pace**. The National Reconstruction Authority, which was in charge of overseeing spending, has been dissolved and many Nepalese people were left to cope with temporary shelters through November. Even reconstruction has been all but stopped, due to [lack of guidelines](#), restricting aid groups from working.

## 10. World Post

According to the [World Post](#), police and doctors did everything they could to help the victims, **but there was just so much chaos that they were not enough**. It advocates that any kind of disaster can come

in life, but by being compassionate and lending a helping hand to others, we can better prepare for future disasters.

### 11. Undispatch

Undispatch covers story of [Sonia Narang](#), a journalist who had documented some experiences of quake victims, including the struggles, hopes and fears that women face as they piece their lives back together. She mentions how women can be victims in such situations. **Temporary and weak shelter has made women prone and vulnerable to various types of abuse**, she claims.

### 12. The Guardian

In news published in The Guardian, Home Secretary [Theresa May](#) had urged police to investigate claims that **child survivors of the Nepal earthquake and other vulnerable children are being sold to British families** to work as domestic slaves. It has been estimated that millions of people across the world are victims of modern day slavery, trafficked across borders and forced to work in servitude. In October 2015, the Modern Slavery Act was brought in to crack down on modern day slavery and protect victims of trafficking.

### 13. Online Khabar

According to reports, in [Sindhupalchowk](#) 3557 people have been dead, 12 people are still missing and said a 1500 have been injured. There has been delay in reconstruction efforts and government has been slow to respond to the needs of the victims. Online Khabar reports that around **98 percent people are living in houses that are collapsing and have been damaged**.

The agency also covers another story about [international media](#) coverage on recent earthquake has supported Nepal to be known to the world. While on the other hand, it has also made thousands of **tourists cancel already booked holiday to Nepal due to the news headline showing the damage to the country** much higher than on the ground, making international people feel the entire country is at standstill and it is a no go zone.

### 14. Daily Mail

Daily Mail reports of [Prince Harry](#) completing a charity project to help rebuild a school in a remote Nepalese village devastated by last year's earthquake. Trekking deep into the Himalayas, **he had joined a disaster relief charity for six days to help the stricken community construct classrooms** so that children no longer had to take lessons in makeshift structures made from tarpaulin and tin. He had initially gone on a five-day tour of Nepal.

### 15. Indian Express

Indian Express covers views of earthquake engineering expert [David Trujillo](#) who claimed **bamboo is ideal for rebuilding in Nepal's mountainous terrain** because it grows widely and is easier to transport than heavier materials. According to him, building with bamboo is also about 50 percent cheaper than with other materials. Technological advances have improved its durability and new systems for joining bamboo lengths mean it can be used to build larger span structures than in the past. In another story by the Indian Express, **nearly a million children still have no school to attend**. Millions of villagers were forced to winter in [flimsy pop-up tents and corrugated tin shacks](#). Tired of

waiting for government help, some local officials and communities are doing what they can on their own.

## 16. SciDev Net

According to an article in SciDev net, a better **disaster management system may have helped Nepal cope better** with its 2015 earthquake. [Andrew Lee](#), a professor at the University of Sheffield, UK, had interviewed 11 Nepalese government officials, academicians, program managers, disaster management practitioners, and policymakers in order to identify barriers to evidence-based disaster management. The barriers had been identified to range from contextual factors such as poverty and local cultures to more system-level issues including problems with coordinating multiple agencies and NGOs.

## 17. The Kathmandu Post

A report by The Kathmandu Post cites figures from [Central Bureau of Statistics](#) (CBS) that **more than 31,000 earthquake survivors in 11 of the 14 worst affected districts have rebuilt their homes on their own**. The report mentions that the government had announced to provide Rs 200,000 as grant and up to Rs 2,500,000 in subsidized loan to each household rendered homeless but so far only 641 household from Laduk and Lamidanda of Dolakha district have received Rs 50,000 as the first instalment of the reconstruction grant. In another report it is mentioned that, [90 percent](#) of **detailed damaged assessment**, a precondition for providing housing reconstruction grant to earthquake victims, **has been completed in 11 districts** and assessments in Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Lalitpur are expected to start next month.

Another story published in The Kathmandu Post reports that [the Department of Archeology](#) is **planning to carry out reconstruction of the Kathmandu-based archeological heritages** including Bajra Yogini temple of Sankhu, Anantapur-Swayambhunath, Bansa Gopal temple of Hanumandhoka, Phasi Deg of Bhaktapur, Manimandap of Lalitpur along with other cultural heritage sites.

There is also a positive story about [tourists](#) **gradually started heading back to the Langtang region**, which was completely devastated by last year's earthquake. Many hotels have come into operation in Langtang, Sindhuraj Pokhari and Kyanjin. A consumer forum of the region, with support from the district development committee, has built a trekking trail in the region.

## 18. PR Newswire

Nearly 5,000 schools were destroyed in the earthquakes and just under a million children impacted. [All Hands Volunteers](#) initially concentrated on building temporary learning centers, providing safe learning environments for close to 2,000 children. **The organization is now focused on actively rebuilding schools in the district of Nuwakot**, after receiving a grant from the Center for Disaster Philanthropy (CDP). Over the next year, All Hands Volunteer plan to build more schools as they believe that the protection and education of Nepal's children is critical to long-term prospects for Nepal and its people.



## 19. Khmer Times

According to [Khmer Times](#), one year after the devastating earthquakes, **many are still under tarpaulin and zinc sheets asking why there has been no government help to rebuild their houses**. While emergency relief and winter packages with warm clothes and blankets, distributed by INGOs and UN agencies, had reached millions in temporary shelters and camps for the displaced, there has been little rebuilding in the 14 earthquake-affected districts. The few rebuilding efforts are in communities supported by INGOs and also the restoration of private homes in Kathmandu.

## 20. News.com.au

This news portal covers story of the “miracle baby [Sonies Awal](#) who was buried alive for 22 hours in the rubble of his family’s house. A team of soldiers had eventually managed to free the little boy from the wreckage. The cupboard had stopped rubble from falling on to him.

## 21. Nepali Times

[Nepali Times](#) has published **photo stories of hope, loss, and inner strength of survivors of the earthquake from Gorkha**. The portraits were designed to commemorate the first anniversary of the earthquake.

Another story covers a sad fate of [Sindhupalchok District Hospital](#) in Chautara that has been **destroyed twice over the last decade**. Once it was destroyed when Maoists attacked a Royal Nepal Army unit guarding a telecom tower adjacent to the hospital and now it has been destroyed by the earthquake. The government took eight long years to rebuild the Sindhupalchok District Hospital. Like the hospital, the post office was also rebuilt a few years ago but was badly damaged by the earthquake. The hospital has sought Rs 500,000 to build a stronger temporary structure, but the ministry has neither denied the budget nor allocated it.

[Anniversaries](#) are a time to revisit disasters, and to the progress that has been made however in Nepal, survivors are still living in tents, and **none of the \$4.1 billion pledged last year at a donor conference has been spent**, according to Nepali Times.

## 22. Trib Live

Trib Live covers news of how with help from the local Nepalese community, [Brother's Brother Foundation](#) sent nearly \$200,000 to Himalayan Health Care to help purchase and distribute **1.5 million tons of emergency food, 10 makeshift medical camps, power generators, 1,000 tarps and 1,200 solar lamps for people** stranded in isolated mountain villages over the past year. According to the source, they have provided livestock to 770 families. They have further pledged an additional \$40,000 to Himalayan HealthCare to rebuild a school.

## 23. Relief Web

Relief Web covers news of [Malteser International](#) **developing a comprehensive rebuilding programme for the coming three years**. As well as the reconstruction of houses, its focus will be on providing health, clean water, and protection from future disasters. Malteser International has helped more than 92,000 people so far after the earthquake.

Relief Web also published a story of the direct effect of the earthquake with nearly 9,000 people were killed by the tremors, with more than 22,000 left injured. **Whole villages were flattened and some 605,000 homes were left destroyed.** As is the case in most humanitarian disasters, [older people](#) disproportionately affected. Despite making up just 8.1% of the population, individuals aged over 60 comprised 28.9% of those killed as a result of the earthquake, according to Nepal's Ministry of Home Affairs.

#### 24. New Spotlight Magazine

New Spotlight magazine alarms about lack of disaster preparedness among Nepalis. According to the agency, [despite several warnings](#) issued by the national and international experts, the **Nepali people are yet to be fully prepared for the consequences of inattention to a looming earthquake.** Along with haphazard building constructions, Nepal's telecom companies are installing big towers over the roofs of houses in Kathmandu Valley, irrespective of the safety standards adopted in terms of the size and strength of the buildings. Similarly, Nepal Electricity Authority is yet to take any safety measures in installing its electricity transformers in various parts of Kathmandu Valley. Almost all transformers are likely to fall if a major quake shakes the valley.

#### 25. AccuWeather.com

This online site covers story about problems living in tents in [Nepal](#) with **still has a long road to recovery and little progress has been made in terms of reconstruction.** The site mentions that one of the biggest steps forward is the reduction in the number of tent cities that popped up across the country last year. After more than half of a million people lost their homes, many used tents as temporary shelter. **The temporary tents had become problematic once the monsoon season began.** Not only did monsoon-fueled storms pose threats for those living in tents, but also problems for crews trying to deliver food and water to outlying areas that were cut off from the outside world.

#### 26. Mashable

Mashable reports that [REI Adventures](#), a travel agency arm of the outdoor gear retailer, is **announcing the opening of a disaster relief area** in the foothills of the Himalayas. **REI raised more than \$900,000** from its co-op members to support the relief effort; construction on the relief center began in January and is nearly complete.

#### 27. Wall Street Journal

According to [Wall Street Journal](#), **Nepal's rebuilding progress is still moving slowly a year after the devastating April Earthquake.** The agency claims that billions of aids have been pledged, but getting these aids to those in need have been difficult in Nepal.

#### 28. Firstpost

Firstpost reports that [very little](#) has been rebuilt, so few lives have been repaired in the aftermath of the earthquake. The agency claims that Nepal **government spent most of the past year wrangling over the country's constitution, a debate that sparked ethnic turmoil in Nepal's plains, a diplomatic spat with New Delhi** and, for more many months, a blocked border with India that reduced fuel



supplies to a trickle. According to the agency, only in the past few weeks has official attention turned squarely toward the earthquake.

### 29. Thomson Reuters Foundation News

Thomson Reuters covers story about how [young Nepali filmmakers](#) have shown the reality of life of earthquake victims one year after the earthquake. Accountability Lab and Onion Films mobilized five young Nepali filmmakers from their network to tell the true stories behind the disaster. The students highlighted accountability issues - problems with the government and donor response and the challenges of rebuilding- but have primarily focused on positive stories of resilience and hope.

Another story covers how [deadly earthquake](#) in Nepal, **thousands of people, especially women, are being deprived of funds to rebuild because they do not own land or cannot prove they owned the land where they lived.** Likewise, Nepal's government requires proof of ownership, but many victims have lost documents and others did not formally own the land where they lived, said a report by the international anti-poverty organization.

Likewise, another story covers journey of **Australian photographer Athena Zelandonii, who is trekking again to attend a ceremony of remembrance on Monday in Langtang village**, destroyed by a huge rock fall that took the lives of 285 locals and foreigners [a year after](#) the worst earthquake in Nepal's history

### 30. Urja News

According to Urja news, **currently there is only 0.01% chance of [large earthquake](#)** in Nepal because after the big blast on 25 April, the accumulated energy has been released. Moreover, the rest of the energy is being released with series of aftershocks. Nepal has experienced thousands of aftershocks and it is still going on hence making the probability of occurrence of next big earthquake low.

### 31. Channel News Asia

Channel News Asia covers a pitiful news about how [vast quantities](#) of rice meant to be distributed to earthquake victims, **remains stored in warehouses throughout Nepal, and instead of being handed out for free, it is to be sold to the public at wholesale prices.** The Nepal Food Corporation (NFC) government agency said millions of dollars' worth of rice donated by the Bangladesh government in the wake of the devastating 7.8 magnitude quake in April last year is now slowly expiring in storage according to Channel News Asia.

### 32. Australian Broadcasting Corporation

[Australian Broadcasting Corporation](#) has said that despite international pledges of more than \$US4 billion (\$5.1 billion) in aid, **no formal rebuilding program has yet begun following the earthquakes** which affected 8 million people and killed nearly 9,000 in Nepal a year ago.

### 33. Newsweek

Newsweek covers how situation is still worse [a year after](#) the earthquake. Roads have been cleared and businesses have reopened; the traffic in Kathmandu is again making rush hour unbearable, and



the city air unbreathable. However, **most of the rubble remains, and state-of-the-art, earthquake-resistant structures have not risen from the dust.** Majority of Nepali families who lost their houses now reside in **precarious temporary dwellings made of corrugated metal, plastic tarpaulin and whatever other materials they could salvage.** The government of Nepal tried to help, assessing the damage as quickly as it could and providing families that lost their homes 15,000 Nepali rupees to support their living.

### 34. The Kathmandu Post

The [Kathmandu Post](#) reports that **JICA had started reconstruction and livelihood development programmes in most of the earthquake-affected districts** including Sindhupalchowk in March. JICA will be providing funds and technical support to rebuild the building of the District Agriculture Office and seed and food warehouses damaged by the earthquake. Further, **Japan has earmarked 430 million Japanese yen for the reconstruction projects.** The funds are being used through 16 non-governmental organizations in the earthquake affected areas.

Another story by the same publication shares that [National Reconstruction Authority](#) is **finally set to engage non-government organizations in rebuilding houses.** The NRA had temporarily barred the NGOs from helping families reconstruct their homes. In Nepal, over 50,000 NGOs are registered with the Social Welfare Council and the local administration however only 10,000 are active, claims the Kathmandu Post. NRA has also decided to ease the housing aid distribution procedure after complications arose with some needy lacking citizenship and land revenue certificates.

Likewise, another story covers that [Prime Minister](#) KP Sharma Oli is **scheduled to lay foundation stone of quake victims' houses** in Chautara, Sindhupalchok and in Rumjatar, Okhaldhunga on Sunday as part of the commemoration, according to the NRA. The authority, which has been widely criticized for delaying post-earthquake reconstruction, is planning to expand rebuilding projects in 11 of the 14 worst-hit districts where detailed damaged assessment are on the verge of completion. Besides the private housing, the **NRA is set to rebuild 176 temporary government buildings immediately. The ministry is mobilizing around 2,400 engineers for reconstruction** in all quake-affected districts by April-end.

In another story, [seven children](#) from Lamabagar village of Dolakha have gone missing after the April 25 earthquake. It has been learnt that these children, ages 6 to 12, were sent to Buddhist monastic schools in India by their parents. None of the children have contacted their families since their departure and have been missing ever since. [The Kathmandu Post](#) reports that **the government had provided 25,000 rupees (\$250, £164) to families to buy corrugated sheets and warm clothes and paid out 40,000 rupees (\$400) for the death of each family member.** [The Department of Education \(DoE\)](#) claims that a **minimum of 5,000 school buildings should be constructed in 14 quake-affected districts.** Among the 5,000 schools, **the government has received pledged support from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for around 1,500 buildings.** The DoE has reached a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with different INGOs for the construction of 600 buildings. Still, there is **no fund for the construction of the remaining 2,900 school buildings,** reports The Kathmandu Post.

The publication also covers story of how Hira Bahadur Shrestha, residing in village of [Bulbule](#), Sindhupalchowk finally started rebuilding his fallen house early this month. After waiting for one long year, the farming family had waited enough. According to the [NRA](#), **only Rs 6 billion out of an allocated Rs 74 billion has so far been released to the implementing agencies**, which leaves plenty of money to be spent within the next three months.

### 35. Republica

According to [Republica](#), **Nepal has made almost no progress in rebuilding** hundreds of thousands of homes, schools and government buildings, as well as some 600 historical structures, including ancient Hindu and Buddhist temples, monuments and palaces and nearly a million children still have no school to attend. **The government's reconstruction agency has so far approved zero projects.** Some citizens have started rebuilding on their own; however most of them are still waiting.

The daily also covers news of how hundreds of families in [Sindhupalchok](#) are following the footsteps of **Sange and Kasaini who independently built their home**. Many have reused the materials from their destroyed houses and almost everyone has taken loan either from cooperatives or banks. The earthquake victims are wary of the nearing monsoon and want to ensure better shelter before another disaster befalls on them. **Rebuilding of houses by the quake victims themselves is underway in the district headquarters Chautara, Melamchi, Barhabise, Tatopani and Helambu, among several towns and villages.**

[Nepali celebrities](#) have put in a lot of effort when the entire nation was reeling under the shock of the earthquake. They raised funds, collected relief materials, went out to build temporary shelters and did their best to boost the morale of the victims in the hard-hit territories of the country according to My Republica. [Nepal](#) is placed at the 11th position in the world among the countries most prone to the recurrent temblors. Nepal itself was created with the collision of the two giant tectonic plates, the Euro-Asian plate and the Indian plate, which continue to collide. The reconstruction works and rehabilitation of the quake survivors is yet to move forward in full swing a year after the earthquake, which struck at 14 districts of the central region of Nepal.

### 36. IRIN News

According to [IRIN](#), **rebuilding has barely begun in Nepal**, despite \$4.1 billion being pledged for reconstruction. The NRA has finally dipped into the \$4.1 billion pool of pledges. Of that, **only around \$1 billion is committed**. The rest of the money is at least theoretically, sitting in the bank accounts of the donors that have not yet signed agreements to get it to Nepal. **Of the committed funds, only around \$615 million is actually available in Nepal**, from donors like the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the Japan International Cooperation Agency.

### 37. Voice of America (VOA) News

VOA News covers news of how the [International Federation of Red Cross](#) and Red Crescent Societies claim **shelter remains the first priority for those survivors of the earthquake**, but little progress has been made to help people rebuild some of the 800,000 homes that were damaged or destroyed in last

year's quake. **The Red Cross says it is waiting for the Nepal government to establish guidelines on rebuilding homes**, so the community members who have been learning masonry, carpentry, and earthquake-resistant building techniques from Red Cross workers can start putting up permanent structures.

The news agency claims that [reconstruction](#) has been painfully slow in Nepal. **Political tensions, bureaucracy and crippling fuel shortages have made it harder for poor people in the remote mountain country to put themselves back together.** Relief agencies working to help the earthquake victims have been frustrated with the snail's pace of rehabilitation.

### 38. The Washington Post

[The Washington Post](#) reports how **hospitals have scrambled to handle the caseload that was way beyond their capacity.**

### 39. Kantipur

In a special coverage in Kantipur daily [a year on after the earthquake](#), it reports that **Barpak the epicenter of the earthquake is still in ruins.** Not much has changed for those who survived the disaster. The government-announced reconstruction aid is yet to reach the villagers. Earthquake survivors, who last year endured torrential rains during monsoon and sub-zero temperatures during winter under **shaky structures made up of tarpaulin and zinc sheets, say just a thought about monsoon gives them shivers.** After waiting for long for the government aid to arrive, the quake survivors decided to take matters into own hands and have started building houses on their own.

[Two sisters](#) trapped for four hours in the rubble tell their extraordinary story of survival. They have been gradually improving and getting back to normal life one year after the earthquake.

### 40. The Himalayan Times

The Himalayan Times reports of how the news of reconstruction of Balgopaleshwor temple, located in the mid-part of Ranipokhari that was damaged in the [April 25 earthquake](#). **The reconstruction of Ranipokhari is to begin from April 24. A budget of Rs 120 million has been allocated for the reconstruction.** The beautification plans include installing electric lighting, construction of rallying around the pond for the protection of the pond, planting green saplings, setting up musical fountains and construction of rounding pavement.

In another news, [the government](#) is set to **mark the first anniversary of the April 25 Gorkha earthquake by announcing implementation of post-disaster reconstruction** on Baisakh 12 (April 24). According to officials, the government will conduct special programmes from April 24 to 26 to expedite reconstruction works.

According to [The Himalayan Times](#), **the country has made almost no progress in rebuilding** hundreds of thousands of homes, schools and government buildings, as well as some 600 historical structures, including ancient Hindu and Buddhist temples, monuments and palaces. **Nearly a million children still have no school to attend.**

#### 41. The Big Story

The Big Story reports that the [reconstruction work](#) following the earthquake has not progressed at the expected speed. **Officials have warned villagers that vague new regulations forbid rebuilding their houses using traditional construction method basically using stacked rocks, mud and a handful of wooden beams.** Small modern houses, with concrete pillars reinforced with steel rods, can cost \$10,000, are fortune in these villages and are far beyond the help the government has promised.

#### 42. BuzzFeed News

According to Anup Kaphle, [BuzzFeed](#) News Deputy World's editor, the country has been failed by the government and has been ignored by the world. **Monuments like the 19th-century Dharahara, the tallest building in the country, and a number of temples and palaces collapsed. The earthquake triggered an avalanche on Everest that blew through the base camp and killed 21 people, making it the deadliest day in the summit's history.**

#### 43. CNN News

CNN reports that in places such as [Sankhu](#), **the quake destroyed or damaged 750 of the town's 960 houses.** The government has not been able to provide support and it is a terrible situation and until now hardly anything has changed. According to the agency, The International Organization for Migration has **hired about 100 residents to assist with debris cleanup that started just two months ago.** Nearby, the International Organization for Migration pays 100 Sankhu residents about \$7 a day to clear bricks, chunks of concrete and dirt so that people then can finally start rebuilding their homes.

#### 44. Himal South Asian

Himal South Asian reports that [the aftermath](#) of that disaster continues to be felt **by thousands of Nepalese who live in 'temporary' shelters.** Looking back at the immediate aftermath, one is reminded of various agencies and people across the globe showed as response to the earthquake.

#### 45. New York Times

[New York Times](#) shares plight of a small farming community on the outskirts of the capital, Durga, 25, was boiling potatoes from his field, when a deafening noise rang out and his house began to shake violently. He and his wife, Niruta, 23, ran across the wildly shifting ground, but then he stopped in his tracks, in the confusion, the couple had left their newborn daughter inside. "I grabbed her and quickly jumped off the terrace on the hill," he recalled. The house collapsed behind him. **"One second later and the child and I would have been killed. That day we were lucky." Many others were not.** Add to all of this a catastrophic earthquake, and one can easily see how hopes for their children's futures can be dashed. "I'm ashamed to say, at that time, we didn't even have food to eat," Durga said.

#### 46. BBC News

A year [after the earthquake](#) and Nepal is still a country of tarpaulins, tents and tin-roofed shacks. According to BBC, **victims of the earthquake have received some small payments from the**

**government** - for hardship and compensation for the loss of relatives - but it promised it would also give every family that has lost a home \$2,000 (£1,390) towards the cost of rebuilding.

#### 47. The Telegraph

[The Telegraph](#) shares a photo story explaining the year after the earthquake and the plight of the people facing the earthquake.

#### 48. Setopati

According to [Setopati](#), **Nepal has offered \$308,880 for reconstruction of homes however only about 5% of homes have been built so far and only 661 Nepalese families have received reconstruction funds.**

#### 49. CCTV America

[A ceremony](#) was held at the ruins of the historic Dharahara Tower in Kathmandu on the first anniversary of the earthquake. As per CCTV America, tourism, which previously accounted for nine percent of the national economy, has not recovered as of yet. **China had promised to give its full support to the reconstruction of Nepal after last year's earthquakes.**

#### 50. Reuters

According to [Reuters](#), a baby who miraculously survived last year's deadly Nepal earthquake at two-days-old, **is still living in a makeshift shed as his family awaits support to reconstruct their flattened home.**

#### 51. International Business Times

Despite achievements in many areas of earthquake recovery efforts, little progress has so far been made in helping survivors to rebuild permanent homes, according to the International Federation of [Red Cross](#) and Red Crescent Societies as published in the International Business Times. The Nepalese government has estimated that 500,000 families were left homeless by the two disasters, but aid groups believe the number could really be in the millions. Save the Children has estimated **3 million people still live without permanent shelter**. Ruined homes and rubble remain on the ground, and while the government has made payments to families who lost homes and loved ones, reconstruction work is still a top priority.

#### 52. Mail Online

[Mail Online](#) reports that **thousands of Nepalese grieved on Sunday for their loved ones killed in the massive earthquake** a year ago, as protesting victims still living in tents accused the government of failing them. Mourners carrying candles and Nepali flags packed into Kathmandu's badly damaged historic square to pray and to mark the anniversary of the quake.

#### 53. Anadolu Agency

[Anadolu Agency](#) reports that a year since the Nepal earthquake victims are still facing same challenge i.e. **finding shelter before monsoon season hits**. For more than 10 months Rameshwar Shrestha

and his family of seven have spent their days and nights in a flimsy tent pitched on a patch of barren land in this historic Nepali town. Made homeless by the 7.8-magnitude earthquake that struck Nepal last year, the 38-year-old hardware shop owner's elderly parents, his wife, a six-year-old son and two sisters endured monsoon rains and then the harsh Himalayan winter.

#### **54. Mirror**

Chief reporter [Andy Lines](#) of the Mirror had visited some of the hardest-hit areas of the disaster, many of which still look unrecognizable from a year ago. She claims that **life in Kathmandu is slowly returning to normal. The souvenir sellers are back and swarm on the few tourists who are starting to return slowly.**

## 3.2 DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS AND HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES

### 1. Red Cross

Due to years of disaster preparation by the [Nepal Red Cross Society](#), rapid and effective assistance were provided to people suffering hardship, emotional distress and disruption to every side of their lives. Over the past year about **8,000 local volunteers** have made an invaluable contribution to the delivery and effectiveness of emergency aid and recovery initiatives. No fewer than 51 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies had supported the earthquake operation with funds and 26 were present in Nepal during the first three months of the operation.

[Nepal Red Cross Society](#), with support from Red Cross and Red Crescent partners have begun **building demonstration and model houses** as part of a recovery programme aimed at both training local masons and builders in improved earthquake resistant construction techniques and preparing a model home for demonstration purposes.

In the Kathmandu valley, the [Nepal Red Cross Society](#), supported by the British Red Cross and with funding from the UK Disasters Emergency Committee, **has been rolling out a flexible community-driven program to boost the food security and income of more than 5,000 farming families in particular hardship**. Conditional grants of 5,000 Nepali rupees (around 45 Swiss francs) have served to kick-start livelihoods as crops are harvested. The Red Cross gave **95,000 cash grants** to help families with their immediate shelter needs, to prepare for winter or to buy seeds and tools lost in the disaster.

The [Nepal Red Cross Society](#), supported by members of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, **provided food, hygiene kits and blankets**. With the support of the Japanese Red Cross, work started on a replacement health clinic, one of 28 across earthquake-hit districts. **The government has given cash grants and agencies provided ribbed iron sheets and toilets. British Red Cross (BRC) has delivered cash grants to beneficiaries** who in turn used the cash grants to repurchase and restock critical items such as tools destroyed when the earthquake toppled their homes or for immediate food. **Beneficiaries also used the funds to purchase seeds for planting of staple crops such as rice, maize, potatoes**. The subsequent harvest would help restore their livelihoods.

### 2. CARE

[CARE](#) has surpassed its initial target of reaching 100,000 people in four of the worst-affected districts of Gorkha, Sindhupalchok, Dhading and Lamjung. As of January 2016, **CARE had reached a total of 196,125 individuals with shelter materials, sexual reproductive health services, messages on gender based violence and protection issues, hygiene and sanitation support, and assistance to help restore livelihoods**.

### 3. All Hands Volunteers

Within 72 hours of the initial earthquake, the [All Hands team](#) was on the ground ready to help. Within a year's time, All Hands Volunteers has contributed towards the **rebuilding of 300 homes in Kathmandu, Sindhupalchok, and Nuwakot**. They have also been involved in numerous community projects such as brickwork training, school reading programs, water catchment systems, and more.



After a year of recovery, the Nepali people are still in dire need of shelter, schools, and resources. All Hands will be spending the next year addressing this need by building back safer earthquake-resilient schools in Nuwakot with the help of our hardworking volunteers and generous donors.

#### 4. World Vision

According to World Vision over the [past 12 months](#) at least **386,984 individuals including 171,860 children have been reached across 161 Village Development Committees and 5 municipalities in 10 districts. Food-security, livelihood and cash-for-work initiatives have benefited more than 165,000 people, including more than 8,000 people, who received emergency food kits** within the first one hundred days of the response. **Health in emergency interventions had reached 72,730 people** who benefitted from repairs of health facilities, provision of medical supplies and equipment, clean delivery kits, baby hygiene kits, family and infant winter kits. **Water, sanitation and hygiene interventions had served 118,420 people** providing thousands of families with access to clean water. Hygiene kits, mosquito nets, toilet and water system repairs and construction have helped to improve sanitation and hygiene practices in affected communities.

#### 5. Global Giving

According to Global Giving [IsraAID's](#) support to Nepalese communities still continue with even wider geographical and demographic coverage. They had started with the emergency response programs like Search and Rescue and Emergency Medical Relief, and IsraAID is now working on a more sustainable and long term projects in Nepal. **IsraAID has currently been working on areas like Livelihood and Women Empowerment projects, Educational Support Program and Capacity Building programs** for local NGOs working on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) issues.

#### 6. Hope Force International

A faith-based disaster recovery agency called Hope Force International, headquartered in Brentwood, went to help last May aiding in **medicine and immediate relief**. They are returning to Nepal with a 20-person medical and construction team, six of whom are Williamson County residents, to help rebuild the country and help those who are in need.

#### 7. Karuna-Shechen Foundation

In 2013, [Karuna-Shechen](#) initiated a Medical Emergency Response Programme to train the local population in disaster and pre-hospital medical emergencies. Following the 2015 earthquakes, this programme was expanded and is part of their rehabilitation activities. People participating in this programme include trekking guides, social workers, monks, students, health workers, and police officers.

#### 8. Habitat for Humanity

[Habitat for Humanity](#) has helped the quake victims by picking, digging and shoveling in order to make the foundation for a few new houses. After that they had been engaged in building the walls for the house which generally consists of two rooms, the sleeping and the living room to aid the quake displaced victims. **Habitat for Humanity's overall goal is to build around 90 houses in one year for the people who got affected by the earthquake last year.** Basically, the construction of one house lasts on average four weeks and costs around 8000 to 9000 US Dollars.



## 9. Project Hope

[Project HOPE](#) responded to the massive 2015 earthquakes in Nepal by immediately deploying a team of medical volunteers to help survivors and coordinating the delivery of multiple shipments of urgently needed medicines. Their work in Nepal continues with a new long-term programme to bring better health to mothers and children impacted by the earthquake. **They sent 15 medical volunteers who helped care for 1,522 patients in the immediate aftermath of the earthquakes and delivered more than \$15.8 million of urgently needed medicines and supplies to the victims.**

## 10. UN Women

In response to the April and May earthquakes, SAATHI, with support from [UN Women Nepal](#), have been running a multi-purpose women's center (MPWC) in Chautara, Sindhupalchok District. **This MPWC has been providing health, legal, psychosocial, livelihood and other support for women earthquake survivors.** To date, the center has provided psychosocial counselling to nearly 500 women and young girls. [Kalpana Shrestha](#) was severely traumatized after losing her four-year-old daughter during the April 2015 earthquake in Nepal. She is on the road to recovery today, **with the help of psychosocial counselling she received at a UN Women-supported multi-purpose women's center in Sindhupalchok District.** To date, the center has provided psychosocial counselling to nearly 500 women and young girls. [Sita Shrestha](#), 19, took part in two-day training on leadership organized by the UN Women-supported women's group SAATHI, in Nepal, following in which **she helped construct a tap and organize villagers to turn a natural water source into a public space they could share.**

## 11. UNICEF

A [YouTube](#) documentary explains how UNICEF worked at the national and local level with key stakeholders to meet the information and communication needs of affected families and communities in Nepal. **The assistance provided by UNICEF has been a vital relief for the affected population especially in remote and rural areas.**

## 12. CARITAS NEPAL

[Caritas Nepal](#), with the support of the international Caritas network has been working side by side with communities over the past year to **rebuild the homes of the quake victims, and improve their lives and their livelihoods.** [Caritas](#) is investing €36.4 million over three years to help Nepal's earthquake survivors as the country marks the first anniversary of the disaster. A major focus will be on providing good quality housing. **Over the past year Caritas has helped over 1.2 million people in Nepal.** In the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, Caritas delivered emergency aid to over 70,000 households (over 300,000 people) including food, shelter, water and sanitation relief items.

## 13. WHO-Regional Office for South East Asia

After the earthquake, mental health issues have been prioritized. To improve the basic skills of health care workers in diagnosing, treating and referring patients with mental health issues, **Nepal's Ministry of Health and Population and WHO** are carrying out mental health training workshops for health

**care professionals working in districts most affected by the earthquakes.** The training has been very useful, particularly for diagnosing depression and substance abuse problems among the victims.

#### **14. Namlo International**

After the Earthquake [Namlo](#) **provided assistance to every household in Dhuskun for temporary shelters and health material** in some of the wards in VDC. Government is providing little help for reconstruction of house but it is impossible to make the house with that help so there is big expectation that Namlo will support in reconstruction of houses.

#### **15. MPowerd**

The day the [earthquake](#) hit, **Kids of Kathmandu were immediately mobilized to provide school supplies and temporary classrooms for the 10,000 children from villages that had been hit the hardest.** The quake fell on a Saturday, the one day a week students have off from school, meaning many lives were luckily protected despite schools being destroyed. Kids of Kathmandu quickly transitioned from relief to rebuilding, creating a comprehensive plan to build permanent schools fully outfitted with clean water, solar power, computers, internet access and even teacher training programmes.

#### **16. Maryknoll**

[Maryknoll](#) has been working in Nepal for the past 30 years with projects that provide income, health care and nutritional needs of the people. **After the earthquake Maryknoll has supported with the purchase of building materials for the construction of new homes in Bhimtar.** With support from Maryknoll, many families were able to purchase bricks for building a new home.

#### **17. You Caring**

One year after Nepal earthquake, [You Caring](#) has been providing **mosquito nets to the victims** and the displaced families in Nuwakot district.

#### **18. UNDP**

A new technology introduced by the Government of Nepal and [UNDP](#) on **systematizing the building permit system has offered new hopes to ease and fast-forward the reconstruction process, while also ensuring a greater compliance of the national building code.** Nepalese wishing to build new structures can now officially apply and receive their building permits online.

According to [UNDP](#) reports, **eight young women entrepreneurs, armed with determination and confidence in their skills, have proven to be role models for their village flattened by the April 2015 earthquake.** They have helped in construction of bamboo houses in Sindhuli District. A number of young women, many of them below 25, had been with cutting and laying bamboo while others were digging small holes to affix the sticks for laying the structure of the building.

[UNDP's](#) initial response started with activities such as debris removal and management, livelihoods recovery, and early recovery coordination. **UNDP played a significant role in the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment, helping the Government in gathering and assessing information about**

**immediate needs.** UNDP also co-led the early recovery cluster under the leadership of the Government of Nepal. **UNDP is also helping Nepal develop a long-term recovery framework that emphasizes resilience,** and existing projects have been reprogrammed to address urgent needs following the disaster.

### 19. Plan International

[Plan International](#) is planning to build 20 new schools and repair 1,600 additional classrooms. These facilities will be 'safe schools', built with disaster-resistant construction and reinforced with emergency preparedness training for students and teachers. However, the government of Nepal has declared a moratorium on construction in Nepal pending the development of new national standards for building and construction, including schools and houses. This is delaying the recovery even further. Plan International has so far **helped 287,847 people since the earthquake by providing emergency shelter, food and water, and immediate access to temporary classrooms and dedicated child protection facilities.** Over the next 2 years, it aims to support 325,000 more people in need, focusing on child protection, education, shelter, water and sanitation, livelihoods/income generation and disaster risk reduction.

### 20. Practical Action

[Practical action](#) covers the story of an earthquake hit girl Maya. Maya was playing outside in the village when the earthquake had struck. She ran, crying, as buildings came down around her, not knowing what to do. She was knocked to the ground in the chaos and hit her arm on some stones. Her injuries had to be treated by the medical team when they arrived at the village a week later. **"Surviving the earthquake was just the beginning of a long and difficult journey for herself, her family and millions of others affected by the quakes"** according to Practical Action.

### 21. Save the Children

[Save the Children](#) claims that, twelve months after the Nepal earthquakes, which affected 8 million people, **homeless families are still living in temporary shelters covered by tarps, under bridges and in unsafe buildings, as 600,000 households remain without permanent shelter.** Save the Children has been preparing its shelter programme for months now, which includes **training 6,000 masons in safe rebuilding practices and preparing cash grants for 6,000 households**— a value of **\$12 million** - that will allow vulnerable households to commence rebuilding.

### 22. World Food Programme (WFP)

[WFP](#) had transported 72,598 desperately-needed sheets of corrugated iron over terraced fields, steep slopes and mountain trails across four districts to help in reconstruction. Another 7,300 sheets were carried up mountains to build 76 temporary schools. **WFP paid about US\$1.4 million in wages to these porters and laborers** which was also a lifeline at a time when their normal employment opportunities were greatly reduced due to the slump in tourism after the quake.

Within six weeks of the first earthquake, the [World Food Program](#) had reached 2 million people, **distributing rice and high energy biscuits to meet survivors' urgent food needs.** With many survivors in isolated villages in mountainous regions, or cut off by landslides, WFP set up an immense



logistics operation tailored to the Nepalese landscape. Its Remote Access Operation employed trucks, helicopters, tractors and teams of mountaineers, as well as 25,000 porters and mules to navigate the steep trails and reach survivors at high altitudes.

### 23. UNICEF

In the aftermath of the earthquake, [UNICEF-supported emergency shelter home has been provided for earthquake-affected women and children](#). The shelter home has been in operation since one month after the earthquake in order to provide a **safe and friendly place for pregnant, postnatal and lactating women, their new-born and children under-five**, and the shelter had qualified health workers round the clock.

The boarding houses at the [Chandeswori Higher Secondary School](#) in Nepal were destroyed during the devastating earthquake that hit Nepal in April 2015. **A year later, Sharmila (12 years old earthquake survivor) and her classmates are still adjusting to the new living conditions as they continue their education according to UNICEF reports.**

In the small [Nepali village](#) of Puranagaun, **a social worker discovers a household where a 17-year-old girl is the sole caretaker of her six siblings. Abandoned years ago by their parents, the children are struggling to rebuild their lives after the earthquake.** Kabita is a social worker in Manthali, the district headquarters of Ramechhap, and she knows the area well. After the earthquake, Community Development Society, a local NGO working closely with UNICEF, approached her for help in documenting vulnerable families.

### 24. Food and Agriculture Organization

[After the earthquakes](#) in April and May 2015, **FAO started an immediate relief operation in a close collaboration with the Government to support vulnerable farmers** affected by the earthquakes, by providing them with the key inputs to revive the heavily-impacted agricultural sector. **These activities included distribution of vegetable and grain seed, grain storage bags and animal feed to protect the livestock health.** Beside the immediate relief, longer-term recovery and rehabilitation work, ongoing since October 2015, aims at providing capacity development trainings for farmers, rehabilitating small-scale community managed irrigation schemes and protecting livestock by rehabilitating animal shelters.

### 25. Centre for Disaster Philanthropy

[All Hands Volunteers](#) were committed towards rebuilding hope amongst the survivors of natural disasters and the volunteers had rolled up their sleeves to help the victims. All Hands had over 80 volunteers, from over 25 countries, who had taken time out of their lives to help these communities recover. It has worked in partnership with Center for Disaster Philanthropy, Happy Hearts Fund and Room to Read.

### 26. Doctors for Nepal

Over the last 2 years, [Doctors for Nepal](#) has been making a unique documentary “Namaste: A Himalayan Journey.” **The film explores the challenges that patient face when trying to access**

healthcare in Nepal, and examines the enormous impact on people's lives following last year's earthquake.

### 27. Mercy Corps

[Mercy Corps](#) offered unconditional cash to 23,000 people so they could purchase emergency supplies or buy the items needed to repair their homes or create better shelters for their families. By working with local shops, the cash transfers infused \$1.7 million into the economy. **The total people they reached numbered to 135,000** with emergency supplies immediately after the disaster.

### 28. Empower Generation

[Across the country](#), in the six months after the first earthquake, Empower Generation distributed **10,995 solar lights, mobile chargers and home systems across fifteen districts through our women-led network.** With their supporters' generous donations, and partnership with organizations like Kopernik, disaster-relief campaigns like Rebuild With Sun, and many more generous global contributors, they achieved an impact far beyond what they initially imagined.

### 29. Oxfam International

[Oxfam](#) was one of the international non-government organizations in Nepal to respond to the earthquake. **In the first few days after the first earthquake hit, our priorities were to ensure that affected people had access to adequate humanitarian assistance and to prevent the outbreak of disease.** Their staff in Nepal began to reach out to people in Kathmandu to assess needs. During the first three months they provided food, water, shelter, latrines and hygiene and sanitation awareness to over 400,000 people. Since then they have been working on long term development and helping communities build back stronger.

### 30. Global Fund for Women

[Alison Wright](#) is a photographer, author, and speaker who travel the globe documenting endangered cultures, people, and issues. In the aftermath of the devastating earthquake Alison Wright travelled to the country for Global Fund for Women to visit their local grantee partners and document how they were using our crisis funding to meet women's needs and rebuild communities. Alison was moved by the tenacity and power of the women she met: "These incredible women are really making a difference with their earthquake relief efforts and their tireless inspiration to better women's rights here in Nepal."

### 31. UNFPA

UNFPA has published a documentary through [YouTube](#) about UNFPA's response to the April 25 earthquake in the 14 most affected districts of Nepal. It highlights **priority interventions in reproductive health, including on adolescent sexual and reproductive health as well as prevention of and response to gender-based violence.** It sheds lights on why addressing the special needs of women and adolescent girls and preserving their dignity is important in crisis-situations.

### 32. European Union Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection



A [YouTube](#) video documents how Nepal was struck by a 7.8-magnitude earthquake which resulted in nearly 9 000 deaths and more than 23 000 injuries. The worst natural disaster in the country's recent history had also brought extensive destruction to houses and assets, leaving the affected families with little or no means to sustain their livelihoods. **To help these families, the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO) funded the 'Nepal Earthquake Recovery Project', providing emergency relief such as shelter, food, winter supplies, and access to water and sanitation, as well as training on hygiene practices and disaster-resilient construction, to vulnerable communities in highly impacted districts.** The initiative was implemented by a consortium of four NGOs, namely DanChurchAid, ICCO Cooperation, Lutheran World Fund Nepal and Christian Aid. Since the earthquake, the Commission has contributed a total of € 16.4 million of humanitarian funding to the most affected communities.

### 33. Clovek Tisni

Clovek Tisni, through a [YouTube](#) video shows how various agencies and volunteers continue to provide aid in Nepal. **They have distributed relief aid such as winter clothes, lamps, building materials and financial grants to vulnerable people affected by the earthquake.** They have work in some of the most remote areas of the country and the delivery of aid is extremely complicated - in some villages, they had to build landing pads for helicopters so the local people don't have to walk for hours to get aid.

## 4. CONCLUSION

Without any doubt, reconstruction efforts post the devastating earthquake has been quite a challenge. There have been various efforts put in by the government and non-government agencies and equally criticism from many corners. Yes, there have been pitfalls but it is high time that a consolidated effort is made with multi-stakeholder collaboration to rebuild Nepal.

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