

# THE EARTHQUAKE

## IN NUMBERS

**80 years**

The earthquake of 25 April is the worst earthquake in Nepal in 80 years.

**7.300 lives lost**

Estimates indicate that 7,300 women, men and children lost their lives in the earthquake.  
(NEOC, 5 May 2015)

**\$16 million**

The estimated funds needed for early recovery is USD 16 million.  
(OCHA, 29 April 2015)

**14,300 injured**

Figures show that an estimated 14,300 people were injured in the earthquake.  
(NEOC, 5 May 2015)

**\$415 million**

It is estimated that USD 415 million is required for emergency needs over the next three months.  
(OCHA Flash Appeal, 29 April 2015)

**44% of districts scarred**

44.3% or 39 out of 75 districts in Nepal were affected by the earthquake.  
(OCHA, 29 April 2015)

**2.8 million displaced**

Estimates show that 2.8 million people are displaced as a result of the earthquake.  
(OCHA, 29 April 2015)



International  
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# The ILO's response to the Nepal earthquake

Photo: © P.Lopez/AFP

# The ILO's response to the Nepal earthquake

The earthquake that hit Nepal on 25 April 2015 has left millions of lives in ruins: estimates show that more than 7,000 women, men and children have lost their lives; almost 15,000 thousand have been injured and more than 2 million people are displaced. With a 7.8-magnitude on the Richter scale, the earthquake has caused widespread destruction in the Kathmandu Valley and surrounding areas. As a result of the devastating scope of the earthquake, it is estimated that more than four million workers may have been affected, most of whom are in the 11 districts worst hit.

Following the disaster, an ILO Earthquake Response Team was established at its headquarters to monitor events in Nepal and to support response efforts. Support has also been sent to Nepal from the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and the Country Office for India.

The ILO has worked closely with Nepal and its constituents (the Government, workers and employers) since they joined the Organization in 1966. Currently, the ILO has a significant development cooperation portfolio in the country, which exceeds USD 10 million, by virtue of support from the European Commission, Denmark, Japan, Korea, and the World Bank. For instance, the experience gained through the World Bank-funded project on labour-based road maintenance, where the ILO employs a team of 60 local engineers, can be seen as particularly relevant to the Organization's reconstruction efforts following the earthquake.

Today, there is an urgent demand for assistance to poor households to help them rebuild their lives. This includes support to rebuilding infrastructure as well as securing poor households with income – through employment opportunities created by reconstruction efforts. The ILO has been asked by the Government of Nepal to contribute to such efforts.

The ILO will focus its efforts in the upcoming period on creating temporary jobs through debris removal thus restoring access to rural communities. Clearing landslides on rural roads is a priority, and much experience has been gained of such work through ILO disaster efforts in Haiti, Indonesia, the Philippines and Sri Lanka.

Beyond the early recovery work, the ILO will contribute to the damage and loss assessments that will get moving in the coming weeks and months. The ILO will contribute its expertise to estimate job losses, recovery needs of enterprises and other employment issues. More medium term and to ensure sustainable recovery, there is a need to replenish assets and skills of small and medium enterprises in sectors such as tourism and other services. Work already underway, prior to the earthquake, in relation to such world of work issues as skills development and the fight against forced and child labour are expected to be of continued importance. Throughout, the ILO will be advocating for fair wages, decent and safe working conditions and the empowerment of disadvantaged groups.

Substantial internal ILO resources aiming to kick-start this work will be allocated shortly.

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## 1966

Nepal joined the ILO in 1966.

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## 2000

The ILO Country Office for Nepal (CO-Kathmandu) was established 15 years ago.

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## \$10 million

The ILO's development cooperation portfolio in Nepal exceeds USD 10 million.

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## Haiti, Sri Lanka, Indonesia & the Philippines

The ILO has gained invaluable experience in disaster response, from Haiti, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and the Philippines, in particular.

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## NOW WE NEED YOUR HELP!

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The ILO Department of  
Partnerships and Field  
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[www.ilo.org/pardev](http://www.ilo.org/pardev)

7 May 2015

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