



## Himalayan Project

En Dansk NGO der yder egnsudviklingsstøtte i Nepal

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### **EARTHQUAKE BY THE END OF THE WORLD**

Fortunately, our area was not hit that hard by 25. April earthquake, which was 190 km away. But our three local employees, Namgyal, Janaki and Tika Ram, anyhow went off early Monday morning in a Jeep with 100 sacks of tarpaulin, mattresses and warm blankets, which were purchased for the funds collected among good people in the Himalayan Project and Rotary clubs in Denmark and Germany. Arrived to the district's main town, Salleri, on Tuesday 12. may, they were in the process of planning with Chief District Officer, where and how they were going to send the 100 bags out to the most needy, as the second major earthquake made all shaking like jelly in about 40 seconds, while the houses cracked and people tumbled and ran around screaming. And then came in a lot of reports via mobile phones. This second quake at 7.3 and its aftershocks at 6.3 were only 44 and 25 km away. It quickly became clear that it was our area with our schools and our friends who were hardest hit in Solukhumbu District. In one municipality was the devastation of 95-100%, the next 90% and 85% and then down the district's 34 municipalities, down to 15%. Our 100 sacks were packed on a tractor and carried to the end of the road, where a group of soldiers over 2-3 days brought them to the worst-affected.

Then I received a phone call from Namgyal. 700 families only in our own 4 municipalities had been homeless and monsoon had already begun to give water daily. Namgyal rang to Kathmandu to a supplier of plastic sheets, which we have acted with a few times with the purchase of greenhouse plastic. He had 1,000 pieces for 20,000 US\$, and he was ready to give us credit, although the money even wasn't shipped from Denmark yet. The next morning Tika Ram flew back to the capital and a few hours later he drove on with Jeep and 1,000 tarpaulins. At the same time, strong men were called in for from the worst-affected places by Radio Himal FM. So 2 ½ days after the earthquake, shortly before midnight, had all the residents in the three municipalities received a plastic roof.

The last 300 of our tarps were with a helicopter, provided by the army, delivered to remote and difficult accessible places. But we were first, at the right places and so even with a good strong quality plastic with guaranteed 3 year durability. Now gradually emergency kits are arriving to all, but with thinner plastic. The last statements, here 2 weeks after, shows that a third of the district's 24,000 households have been homeless. Many places people could temporarily move in with neighbors or family, just not in the places where we supplied. There all are down.

And the same with our schools. The last few years, we have built with the earthquake-proof technique. And those buildings still stands, almost undamaged. Our three employees, Namgyal, Janaki and Tika Ram, took a round throughout our project area, where they had to stay overnight in tent or shelters. Janaki distributed scholarship for all our supported children and young people. Namgyal has evaluated school buildings, clinics and family situations in general. So far he discarded 8 buildings at two schools, which we feel a responsibility for. They are now in the process of being demolished and building materials to be stored. The first school reporting ready, will have built first. On three less damaged buildings, he has ordered repair started immediately.

An additional 10 buildings he has declared unfit, but we first have to be resolved on how far other donors may be involved. And further has so far two other schools approached with a plea for help. What we have built up over 18 years was smashed up in 40 seconds. But that which we have built up inside the minds of people, adults and children, it is intact. And they didn't have time to become desperate, for they all had plastic roof within 3 days. And now we promise them new earthquake secured schools already when the monsoon ends in late summer. They sit inside their small emergency shelters with plastic roof slurping tea, laughing and fooling as always. My people get warm handshake and a hug sometimes. The other day I was phoned by a local peasant with an English vocabulary of less than 50 words; but I understood him, that only the Buddha is bigger than me. So now I'm struggling on, to raise enough money. And as soon as the monsoon stops by October I will go there and live in small wooden huts with plastic roof, laughing and drinking tea, while we build schools.

Right from the beginning was our efforts coordinated with the local authorities in the district's main town of Salleri (Chief District Officer, District Army Chief and Radio Himel FM) and at local level (VDC Secretary, Ward Citizen Forum and VDC Mobilizers), which ensured a proper and fair distribution of these the very first supplies of relief. Therefore we selected the three hardest-hit municipalities, the largest municipality and the three most distant municipalities. In addition, we got all the help that these authorities could make available. The radio called the right people for meeting sites, the army helped to pack and carry, the army made a helicopter available, local representatives went over mountain and valley, each to carry 20-30 sheets home, local authority ensured a fair distribution and so on. And we got a huge recognition from all, which can facilitate our way when we shall be rebuilding.

The estimate of damage, which we were working with, was drawn up on the basis of information in the course of 2-3 days after the second quake, and was issued by the local police and local mobilizers. That is to say by non-experts, but on the basis of their immediate impression that bore the imprint of the panic atmosphere that was present everywhere. But in any case, there was absolutely no one who dared to live in their houses, no matter how it looked. Solukhumbu District has 34 municipalities with a total of 23,813 households, of which 7,995 (34%) was deemed uninhabitable, while 8,364 (35%) were rated damaged but presumably to repair.

#### Statement of our acute effort with tarpaulins

Municipality VDC	House Hold	Damaged Houses			Distributed tarpauline	Days after
		Entirely	Partially	Total		
Bhakanje	285	98%	2%	285	262	3
Chaulakharka	430	100%	0%	430	220	6
Goli	453	81%	19%	453	216	1 & 6
Beni	2,816	42%	29%	2,002	172	4
Salleri					40	5
Necha Batase	767	9%	66%	574	50	5
Necha Betghari	838	11%	81%	769	50	5
Salayan	1,137	34%	46%	908	100	5
					1,110	

But subsequently, as people fall down and begin to experience the uncertainties of living in emergency shelters, then the numbers fades. In Bhakanje there are 10-15% of houses, which has no faults, as far as it can be seen. Half of the remainder can probably be repaired. But it means also that there still are 40-45%, which has collapsed completely or where the damage is so extensive that the house is dangerous to inhabit. But if earthquakes are not yet concluded in this

place, then the figures, of course, will be completely different again, when minor imperfections will be greater. As it looks now 100-150 families in Bhakanje are without permanent home here and now and in the future, until they can afford to build it up again. For the time being, they started to break down and to save the bits, which can be reused. Even breakdown work is very difficult, if the house is still standing, and especially if it is more than one storey. In Nepal house insurance is a very new and expensive thing, which no one at all has seen in Solukhumbu. Life in shelters is anyhow OK. The values, which could be saved, are in security; in many cases in the greenhouse. There is a roof over their heads. Tarpaulin covered by bamboo mats to shadow of the Sun. But here in the monsoon season are snakes and other vermin more active, and insecurity increases. The desire to get into the house is increasing as time goes on.

From Governments side there has been paid compensation to those whose house is substantially damaged. It is about 7,000 Rs (70 US\$) in the first place and 15,000 Rs recently (\$ 150). If the materials can be reused and the residents themselves can build, then they can probably build a little house for 100,000 Rs. But if there are no materials and craftsmen are employed, then it becomes rather 4-600.000 Rs for a small house, but then it is not earthquake-proof. This will cost 1-200,000 Rs extra. And if one used to better things, then it will be more than a million. It will be interesting to see how people are coping with the challenge. But we have decided not to move into this field. At least not yet. Maybe later when we become witnesses to the unfortunate situations where people cannot build or move.

So now we need to concentrate on getting school buildings brought in position again, so the kids can get their teaching, and parents can have peace at home for all the tasks that will keep them busy in the future. We expect during July to have an overview of Sagar-Bakanje School and Sagardanda School, in which level they are in the process of cleaning up and sorting the building materials. Then we can start to build in September, when the monsoon is terminating. We've got a prior agreement with good craftsmen, and are right now waiting for the authorities how far they will provide a grant to the school buildings. In the whole of Solukhumbu District, there are 271 schools (173 Primary, 57 Lower Secondary, 25 Secondary and 16 Higher Secondary) and of these 213 are damaged and thus 58 undamaged. The damaged schools have a total of 1907 classrooms, of which 514 are harmed to uselessness, 365 is hard damaged, 303 has minor injuries and 725 is undamaged. The damaged schools involving a total of 24.773 pupils. The schools, which we are mainly involved in, are make up 24 of the useless rooms, 16 difficult damaged, 14 more easily damaged and 8 undamaged; but in addition, there are all the others that we have been involved with along the years, as we do not dare to think of yet.

The attached accounts relates exclusively to the emergency shipment of Survival Sack and tarpaulins. The listed donors are those who specifically asked for that their donation will be used for this purpose. Other donors have paid for emergency aid more generally, and their donation will be used for the reconstruction of schools. This will be reported later as we get it implemented.

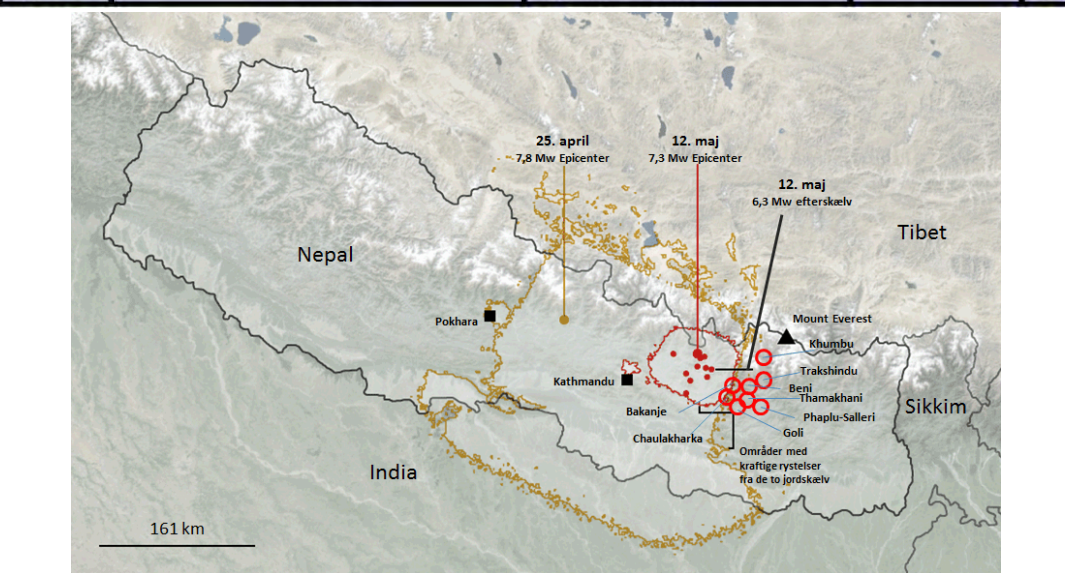
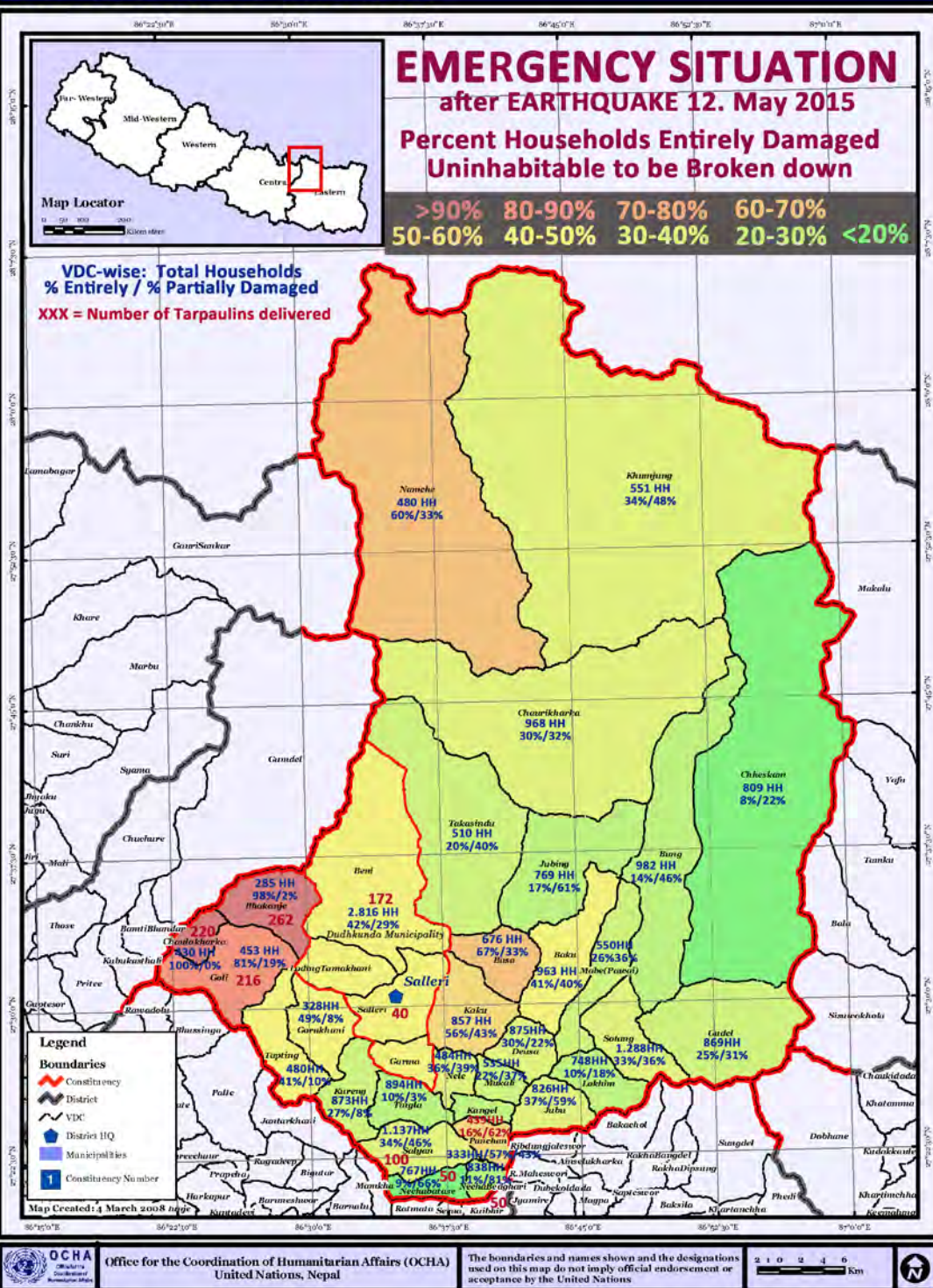
There are no pictures attached to this newsletter. It'll get you far better on the website [www.nepalhelp.dk](http://www.nepalhelp.dk) which will be updated periodically, when the news come in.

With best regards

Kurt Lomborg, Project Manager of Himalayan Project.



# SOLUKHUMBU DISTRICT



Date	Earthquake Relief Aid Account 07. 06. 2015	Qty	Rate (NRS)	Tarpaulin	Blanket	Mattress	Rope	Sacks	Transport	Total NRS
10.05.15	90 GSM Silpaulin (15F x 20F)	110 pc	1.887	204.803						204.803
13.05.15	120 GSM Silpaulin (12F x 18F)	1000 pc	1.780	1.779.999						1.779.999
10.05.15	6F x 6F Blanket	100 pc	700		70.000					70.000
10.05.15	2F x 6F Mattress	150 pc	325			48.750				48.750
10.05.15	2F x 6F Mattress	55 pc	400			22.000				22.000
10.05.15	2 mm Rope	3000 m	10				30.000			30.000
11.05.15	Packing strings	100 m	4				400			400
10.05.15	100 kg Sacks	100 pc	14					1.400		1.400
11.05.15	KTM-Salleri Transportation by mini truck								40.000	40.000
13.05.15	Tikaram flight Ticket Phaplu-KTM								3.665	3.665
13.05.15	Tikaram Taxi fare								1.150	1.150
14.05.15	KTM-Salleri Transportation by Truck								50.000	50.000
14.05.15	Local Transportation by Tractor (Pikeykhop)								25.000	25.000
15.05.15	40 Tarpaulin (100kg) by plane ( KTM-Phaplu)								9.000	9.000
19.05.15	Local Transportation by Tractor (to Junbesi)								3.000	3.000
07.06.15	Himal FM Radio Program weekly in 6 months									100.000
09.06.15	1.5% tax on plastic			2.755						2.755
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>1.987.557</b>	<b>70.000</b>	<b>70.750</b>	<b>30.400</b>	<b>1.400</b>	<b>131.815</b>	<b>2.391.922</b>

Date	TOTAL INCOME of HIPRON	F. C.	NRS
03.05.15	Ilana S Worsham	USD	500
02.06.15	Shafiq Noorani	USD	450
21.05.15	Himalayan Project Denmark	DKR	150.000
<b>Total Income</b>			<b>2.324.701</b>

**Following donors have specifically mentioned Survival Sack for their donation**

30.04.15	Laust Eriksen, Kirkegade 25, Jebjerg, 7870 Roslev	5.000,00
07.05.15	Niels Bækby, Ydunsvej 97, 7800 Skive	500,00
11.05.15	Niels Østergaard, Neder Hjerkevej 23, 7870 Roslev	5.000,00
11.05.15	Bodil og Leif Kristensen, Dalvænget 6, 7900 Nykøbing M	800,00
11.05.15	Liesa Petersheim, Freilighrathstraße 17, D-40479 Düsseldorf	7.429,80
12.05.15	Hermann Franzen, Königsallee 42, D-40212 Düsseldorf	3.705,00
13.05.15	Frida Mundbjerg Nielsen, Kobberupvej 217, 75000 Holstebro	3.000,00
13.05.15	Human Practice Foundation	60.000,00
18.05.15	Stefan Hammer, Kibshavevej 19, Kulepile, 5900 Rudkøbing	800,00
18.05.15	Jacob Snestrup Hansen, Havnevej 45,1, 7800 Skive	1.000,00
20.05.15	Sandra Koetting, Ernst-Abbe-Weg 18, D-40589 Düsseldorf	501,28
21.05.15	Human Practice Foundation	50.000,00
27.05.15	Maria Richter, Kennedydamm 5, D-40476 Düsseldorf	947,65

Total collected specifically for Survival Sacks: **138.683,73**  
 Expected cost of Earthquake Relief Aid to Solukhumbu: **154.481,40**  
 To be added from HP Earthquake Relief Fund: **15.797,67**

BALANCE	
Date	NRS
To be transferred from HP: 07.06.15	-67.221
At rate 15,0 NRS/DKR it will be DKR:	<b>4.481,40</b>