

NEPAL

Internet services established by the ETC allow the response community to meet the urgent needs of the people affected by the earthquake, better, faster, safer.

For years, the humanitarian community has been preparing, prepositioning, training for the 'big one' – the massive earthquake that was predicted to strike Kathmandu Valley, any time from now to the distant future. On 25th April, it happened.

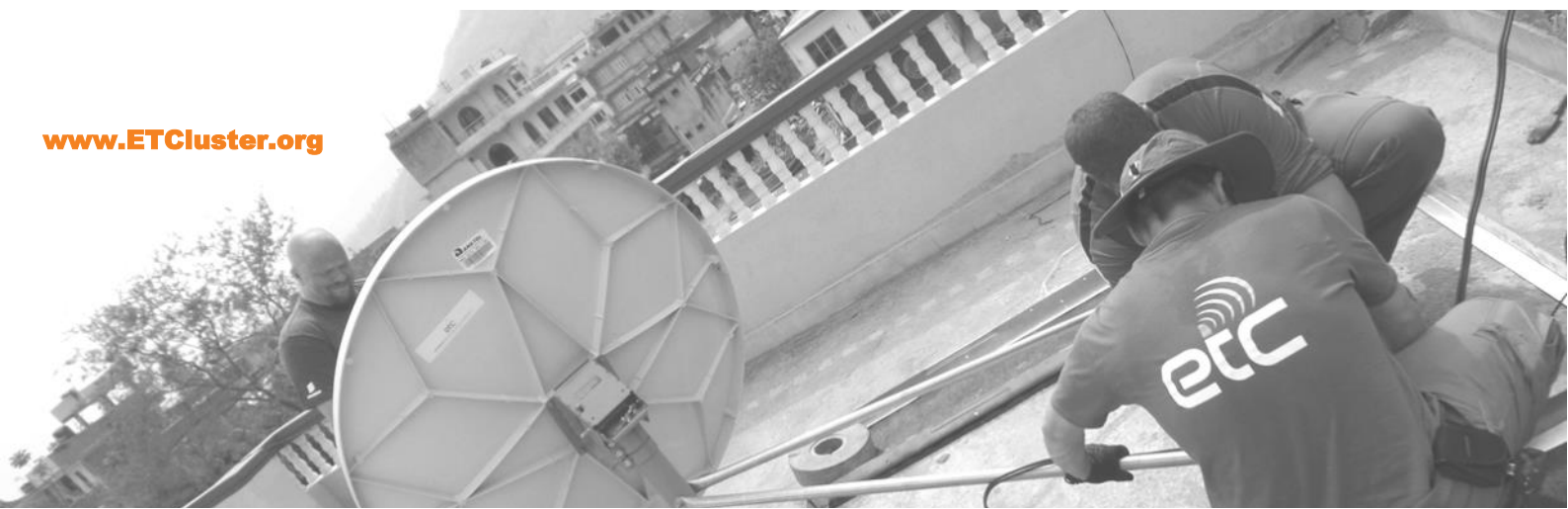
The 7.9 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal, 81km northwest of the capital. Over 8000 people lost their lives and more than 8 million people were affected. More than two weeks after the initial shock, a 7.3 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal again, this time 83km east of Kathmandu, causing further destruction.

The humanitarian community quickly mobilized to respond to the urgent needs of the affected populations. The ETC is **providing vital communications** services to support the implementation of life-saving aid operations.

Urgent Communications for the Response Community

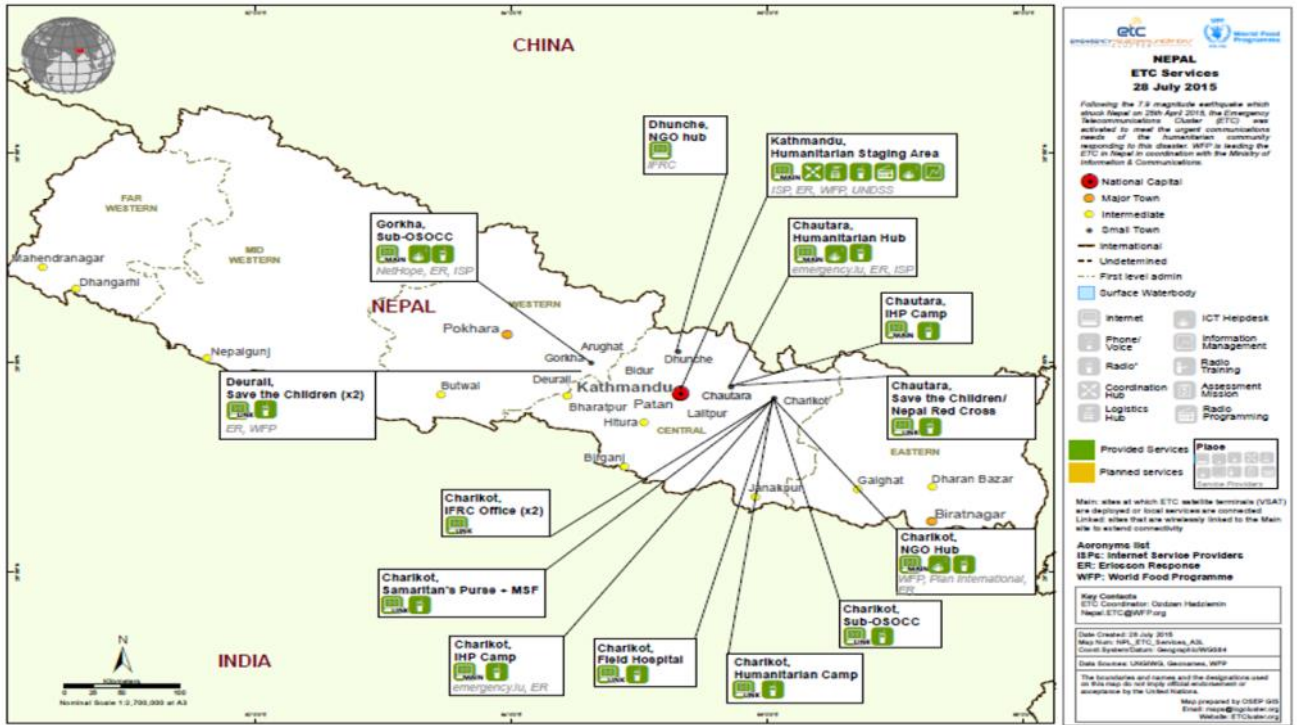
- The ETC is providing shared internet connectivity services to the response community in **15 sites** across three common operating areas—Gorkha, Chautara and Charikot.
- Over **1431** users from more than **250** different response organisations have registered to use services provided by the ETC.
- A full ETC team is on the ground in Nepal with responders from emergency.lu, Ericsson Response, NetHope, Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB), World Food Programme (WFP) and local partners.

The ETC is working in close collaboration with government authorities, humanitarian organisations and national internet and mobile service providers to ensure quick provision of communications services to the response community.





ETC Internet Services



* Services provided at these sites leverage existing partner infrastructure.

Logistics Challenges

Monsoon season is approaching which will not only worsen existing logistics challenges but also potentially hamper deployment of technologies and provision of services.

Plans & Funding

The ETC is appealing for US\$2 million to continue to provide:

1. Internet connectivity in hubs and operational areas.
2. Security communications in remote areas.
3. Technical training for local humanitarian staff.
4. Strengthened disaster response capacity for the Nepali authorities.



To date, the ETC Nepal has received US\$1,315,361 in cash contributions, as well as \$550,800 in in-kind donations of staff, equipment and operational costs from emergency.lu, Ericsson Response, NetHope and Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) and national internet and mobile services providers.

For more information about the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) in Nepal, visit: www.ETCluster.org or contact: Nepal.ETC@wfp.org

The ETC is a global network of organizations that work together to provide common communications services in humanitarian emergencies.