



**Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations**

**Nepal**

**Belgium's contribution  
through the Special Fund for  
Emergency and Rehabilitation  
Activities (SFERA)**



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### **The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and Belgium join efforts to provide emergency livelihoods assistance to earthquake-affected households**

On 3 November 2023, a 6.4 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal. The earthquake impacted several districts in Karnali province – mainly Jajarkot and Rukum West – resulting in the loss of lives and property and causing extensive damage to the agriculture sector, the source of livelihoods for many of the affected households.

According to the National Emergency Operation Centre, the earthquake damaged approximately 62 000 houses and exposed 250 000 people to hazards. Furthermore, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development reported that the earthquake led to the loss of agricultural inputs and equipment and destroyed irrigation canals and farmer service centres. In addition, thousands of farming households reported losing their standing crops, stored grains and seeds, cattle and farming tools. These losses are expected to have both an immediate and long-term impact on the affected households, many of whom were already facing moderate or severe food insecurity prior to the earthquake and were skipping meals, shifting

to less preferred/inexpensive food, or borrowing food from family members.

As the affected communities grapple with the aftermath of this earthquake, the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium contributed USD 500 000 to FAO through SFERA, to provide agricultural production inputs (28 tonnes of cereal, 1 400 composite packages of vegetables seeds, 1 400 home gardening toolkits, 28 000 fruit and fodder saplings and 40 000 hermetic bags) to 1 400 earthquake-affected households (7 700 people). Furthermore, the project will repair and rehabilitate six small-scale irrigation schemes. These interventions are aimed at helping the targeted households resume food production, restore their livelihoods and enhance their resilience against future shocks and stresses.

### **Contact**

Office of Emergencies and Resilience  
OER-Director@fao.org  
fao.org/emergencies  
Rome, Italy

FAO Representation in Nepal  
FAO-NP@fao.org  
Kathmandu, Nepal

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



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CC9225EN/1/12.23