

## NEPAL EARTHQUAKE RELIEF: Three Years Later, Which Charities Performed Best?

*When disasters happen, Canadians ask Charity Intelligence to recommend charities that can best help. Disaster giving is one of the trickiest areas of intelligent giving: help is needed immediately, donors want to give quickly, the situation in the disaster area is unknown. Charities ask for donations, yet it is too early for even them to know how much money they will need, how they will spend it, and when. Disaster giving can epitomize “spray and pray” giving.*

*Years afterwards it is critically important to hold charities accountable, to read the progress reports, and critically assess how our giving was used. Did it do the most good possible? Accountability works both ways: Charity Intelligence too needs to be accountable. Did we pick the right charities?*

### Background on Nepal Earthquake

On Saturday morning, April 25, 2015, a severe 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal. Its epicentre was in Gorkha, northwest of Kathmandu. This earthquake killed over 8,900 people, injured three times as many, destroyed 800,000 buildings, and left about 2.7 million people homeless. Nepal was already one of Asia’s poorest countries. The Gorkha earthquake overwhelmed Nepal’s ability to cope. To hamper relief efforts, on May 12, a 7.3 magnitude after-shock caused additional death, injuries, landslides and destruction. Nepal’s annual monsoons began in early June, with freezing winters ahead.

Charities, UN agencies, and governments launched a global humanitarian disaster response. The world responded with countries and donors giving \$4.1 billion for Nepal’s recovery. The relief efforts have been slow, hampered by Nepal’s political weakness, bureaucracy, and rampant corruption. Despite these challenges, some charities provided effective relief. Some charities fared not so well.

*“Having raised the money is not enough: it must reach the projects that truly help people.”<sup>1</sup>*

To best help Nepal’s recovery, Charity Intelligence recommended Canadians donate to **Doctors Without Borders**, **World Vision**, and **UNHCR**.<sup>2</sup> Three years on, we evaluate how each charity has helped Nepal. Did Charity Intelligence pick the best charities? UNHCR was a bad pick. Doctors Without Borders was “better than good” not “best” as Nepal’s medical needs, thankfully, were less than those in prior earthquake disasters. World Vision was a “best” pick. **Samaritan’s Purse** was likely a “better than good” pick we missed.

This review details the activities of ten charities Canadians donated to along with our assessment of their disaster response. Too few donors evaluate disaster giving. With scant donor interest in reading progress reports, charities perhaps see little point in reporting back. As such, disaster reporting is generally poor. There is little information on how much money was received, how this money was spent, when it was spent, and how it best met the needs of Nepal.

Donors need to read the charity reports on the Nepal earthquake. As more Canadians do this follow-up, charity reporting will improve, and there will be better accountability. Aid will be faster and better, ultimately helping people affected by disasters.

## Nepal's Greatest Needs: Shelter, Cash, and Farm Supplies

In April 2015, Charity Intelligence's picks assumed permanent shelter would emerge as the greatest need in the Nepal disaster response. It is in most earthquakes. This hypothesis held true. Three independent surveys of Nepalese hit by the earthquake showed permanent shelter was their first priority need. Second was cash transfers and cash-for-work. The third highest need was initially building supplies. By October 2015, this shifted to farm supplies to improve livelihoods, like animal livestock and seeds.

**Shelter, cash and farm supplies are needed most**

"What do you need most?"

Survey of Nepalese people affected by the earthquake

Survey 1: Aug. 2015	Survey 2: Oct. 2015	Survey 3: Dec. 2015
<b>1. Long-term shelter</b>	<b>Long-term shelter</b>	<b>Long-term shelter</b>
<b>2. Cash, cash-for-work</b>	<b>Cash, cash-for-work</b>	<b>Cash, cash-for-work</b>
3. Short-term building supplies	Livelihood: livestock, farm supplies, seeds	Livelihood: livestock, farm supplies, seeds

Source: Ground Truth Solutions surveys in Nepal's disaster-affected areas<sup>3</sup>.

From this survey information, Charity Intelligence rates highest the charities with a high mix of spending in shelter, cash and livelihoods. This aid provided what the people in Nepal said was needed most, and is likely the most effective. We assume people affected by disasters know best what they need.

**World Vision** had the highest spending mix in the three priority areas: 62% of its spending was in shelter, cash and livelihoods. For comparison, **Plan International** spent 40% on the three highest needs.

Charity Intelligence has evaluated the information charities have posted on their disaster response work in Nepal and rated them from best to worst. (see Nepal Earthquake 2015 Response).

This table shows how little information charities report. "No information found" litters the table. Disclosure must improve. Progress reports must be easily accessible to donors. Stories and pictures are nice, but financial numbers are needed.

Making comparisons between charities is controversial. Should we judge charities and evaluate their programs as "best" or "worst"? Obviously, Charity Intelligence believes comparisons are essential in intelligent giving. Agree or disagree, donors need some objective framework to appraise their giving decisions. This will best help people affected by disasters.

## Nepal Earthquake 2015 Response

Charity	Charity Intelligence Assessment	Best < > Worst	Raised (\$mil)	Spent (\$mil)	Speed	Activities
<b>Charities Recommended by Charity Intelligence:</b>						
World Vision International	Best		nif	US\$52.5	Fast 20% - 49% - 31%	62% spent on Nepal's highest needs, 307 homes built (of total 357 homes planned). Best mix, fast timing.
Doctors Without Borders	Better		nif	US\$11.2	Fast	All medical. Fast response - all finished by Dec. 2015
UNHCR	Worst*		+ C\$64	nif	nif	Poor - temporary shelter. NB. Based on UNHCR public reporting
<b>Charities providing Nepal's needs for permanent housing:</b>						
Samaritan's Purse	Better		nif	nif	nif	Looks good - fast disaster response, adaptive, long-term shelter 350 homes built (total 400 planned)
World Renew	Good		US\$3.4	nif	nif	Looks good - long-term shelter 81 homes built (total 201 planned), est. total cost per home US\$17,000
Habitat for Humanity International	Poor		US\$3.4	nif	nif	Looks poor quality - 87 homes built, (total 150 planned), est. total cost per home US\$22,700
<b>Disaster response charities:</b>						
Canadian Red Cross	Good		C\$27.4	C\$7.1	Fast start - 29%	Medical care, mentions cash distributions. Fast start spending 29% in Phase 1 Disaster. No additional information after Phase 1.
Plan International	Good		C\$28	nif	nif	40% spent on Nepal's highest needs.
Oxfam International	Good		US\$56	nif	nif	Cash distributions maybe \$12m 21% of aid, temporary shelter, water
Save the Children	Poor		nif	nif	nif	Cash, medical care

nif = no information found

## Rundown of which charities did what in Nepal disaster response:

### Doctors Without Borders

Raised: Not mentioned      Spending: US\$ 11.2 million  
 Phase 1: Disaster Phase April 2015-July 2015  
 All operations over by December 2015

Donor report:      [Nepal: Three months after the earthquakes, MSF reduces operations](#)

Financial information      Full spending for disaster response with no breakdown among activities or periods. No special appeal launched, funded from general operating budget. As such, no detailed financial breakdown.

Expertise      Specialized medical help

**Key activities:** Doctors Without Borders worked alongside Nepalese doctors, performed 240 specialized surgeries, 2,500 health consultations, and helped Nepal's medical teams reduce the backlog of those needing acute medical treatment. Wounded were evacuated to Nepal Orthopedic Hospital in Kathmandu, the Charikot hospital in Dolakha (epicenter of second earthquake), and Spinal Injury Rehab Centre.

Doctors Without Borders set up a 20-bed field hospital in the Gorkha district that treated 15 patients per day on average, with an average of 100 patients per day treated in the outpatient clinic.<sup>4</sup> Nepal's government capacity was stronger than expected; it led the mass evacuation of people severely injured. This left Doctors Without Borders doing helicopter clinics in remote locations providing treatments for 2,500 patients with less serious injuries. Doctors Without Borders ramped down its operation by July 2015 to a skeleton crew in case there was a disease outbreak, like cholera.

In addition to medical work, Doctors Without Borders's report describes its other activities in distributing temporary shelter, and providing water and sanitation in the camps that set up in Kathmandu with people left homeless by earthquake damage.

When Doctors Without Borders deploys, this typically signals a major disaster. Doctors Without Borders response was brief and less intensive than anticipated – it got out of the way when it was no longer needed. As such, its program costs were less than expected but likely vital in the first month.

### World Vision

Raised: no information found      Spending US\$52.5 million  
 20% spent in Phase 1: Disaster \$10.5m April 2015 – September 2015  
 49% spent in Phase 2: Recovery \$25.7m October 2015 – December 2016  
 31% to spend in Phase 3: Rehab \$16.3m January 2017 – April 2018

Timely response with 69% of funds spent by December 2016 (20 months after earthquakes).

Donor report: [Nepal Earthquake Response Report: Two Years and Beyond](#)

Financial information World Vision has the best financial transparency of all the disaster response charities. It provides clear financial information on 1. how much was spent, 2. when it was spent, and 3. what it was spent on. World Vision provides detailed breakdowns of spending both by disaster phase and also by sectors<sup>5</sup>.

Expertise Multi-service disaster response with activities across all sectors.

**Key Activities:** World Vision is rated best due to its spending mix which best aligns with the three highest needs – 62% of disaster relief spending was on shelter, cash and livelihoods. Its’ response was also fast with a clear plan to get disaster response done within 3 years. This clearly distinguishes disaster relief from long-term development.

World Vision has made one of the largest commitments to cash transfers in delivering humanitarian aid<sup>6</sup>. It has raised cash transfers from 5% of aid programs to 30% in F2015. Cash transfers are one of the most significant recent innovations in humanitarian aid. Cash gives people hit by disaster greater dignity, choice and flexibility. Rather than receiving “stuff” charities think people need, cash gives people the flexibility to choose. Donors should also like cash: it is effective, fast, and cheap.

In Nepal, World Vision’s cash program had three tranches covering unconditional cash transfers, cash-for-work, and cash-for-training. World Vision spent US\$15.8 million in cash to 36,538 families and other livelihood supports. World Vision’s cash transfers did have a glitch. Some families eligible for cash did not receive it. This was resolved.<sup>7</sup>

In temporary shelter, World Vision distributed 345,664 sheets of corrugated galvanized iron to 21,604 families, with 19,204 toolkits, and trained 99 people in masonry. World Vision’s shelter program delivered good temporary shelter in corrugated galvanized iron sheets, rather than tarps and tents. It also had a low distribution of hygiene kits that likely have dubious effectiveness.

In providing permanent shelter, World Vision had the second highest commitment to building homes (second to Samaritan’s Purse). It built 307 homes with 50 homes to be built for vulnerable families. Shelter expertise is one area responding charities typically lack expertise. To fill this gap, World Vision partnered with Colorado-based Build Change for its expertise in resilient shelter repairs and construction<sup>8</sup>.

#### UNHCR

Raised: not found – at least C\$64 million from Canadian government

Spending not found

Donor report: [A year after Nepal quake, villagers rebuild from the ruins](#)

Financial information      No information found

Expertise                      Shelter

**Key Activities:** UNHCR distributed 41,574 plastic tarps, 8,032 solar lamps, 5,000 blankets, 450 shelter kits and 175 temporary schools distributed to 210,000 displaced people.

That is all the information found. UNHCR is mostly funded by governments and likely provides these funders with better disclosure. We did not find its disaster response report.

Charity Intelligence picked UNHCR given Nepal's severe needs, UNHCR's large size, and its expertise in shelter. UNHCR has operated in Nepal since the early 1960s. We had hoped Nepal would be the first disaster deployment of IKEA shelter huts. Instead, UNHCR handed out thousands of plastic tarps. Tarps have proven again and again to be ineffective in countries that have monsoons and are inappropriate for cold weather. Nepal has both.

Disaster response differs from development work. Disaster response needs to be fast and flexible. Subsequent surveys of people affected by disasters report low satisfaction with UN-agencies response. Perhaps the UN's institutional framework inhibits fast and adaptive disaster response relative to international charities.

### Good charity picks missed: Samaritan's Purse?

As in investing, the mistakes of omission need to be factored in accountability. Samaritan's Purse may have outperformed in meeting the needs in Nepal. Samaritan's Purse has built the most homes for those affected by the disaster in Nepal, meeting Nepal's greatest need. Like many charities, Samaritan's Purse does not publish financial information. This information is critical for donors to understand the scope of the disaster spending relative to the activities. Numbers matter.

#### Samaritan's Purse

Raised: no amount found      No financial information found on amount raised or spent

Donor report:                      [Nepal Earthquake 2015: Relief and Early Recovery Report](#)

Financial information      No information found

Expertise                          Multi-service humanitarian aid

**Key Activities:** Samaritan's Purse Nepal disaster relief was turbo-charged by connecting with the US Marines deployed to Nepal. Nothing gets tonnes of supplies into remote locations faster than a Huey. Samaritan's Purse was on the ground in Dolakha, the region most affected by the after-shock, or second earthquake. Samaritan's Purse details its food distribution: it provided 14,830 households with each family receiving 15kg of rice, 2 kg of lentils, 0.5l of oil, and 0.25kg of salt. Through partnership with the World Food Program, a UN-agency funded by governments, Samaritan's Purse distributed Plumpy'Doz

to 7,856 children under two. This specialty food stops malnutrition, which was an initial fear in Nepal that did not occur on a large scale.

Samaritan's Purse's director reports its shift in aid to all in Phase 1 to targeting Nepal's most vulnerable people affected. He also notes

*“it soon became evident that households needed a more substantial temporary shelter than tarps to sustain them through the monsoon period”.*

Samaritan's Purse switched to providing corrugated galvanized iron sheets and locally-bought Quonset shelters. This local-sourcing benefits market recoveries. Samaritan's Purse has built the most homes. It has built 350 earthbag houses, with 50 more coming.<sup>9</sup> With only pictures to assess, these homes look good.

### Comparing charities providing long-term shelter, Nepal's top priority

Permanent housing is a critical need of the people in Nepal. The earthquake destroyed an estimated 800,000 homes. Looking at charities providing long-term housing, donors should compare results at Samaritan's Purse, World Renew and Habitat for Humanity.

#### World Renew

Raised: Over US\$3.4 million

Donor report

No financial information found on spending

[Nepal: Two Years After the Earthquake](#)

Financial information

No information found

**Key Activities:** World Renew's focus is rebuilding homes. This meets the highest need of people in Nepal. By April 2017, World Renew had built 81 earthquake-resistant brick homes, with construction underway on 120 homes. World Renew adapted to Nepal's construction labour shortage by paying market wages.

**One unique characteristic about Nepal's disaster recovery:** Nepal has an abundance of construction workers. Yet these workers leave for jobs in India and the Gulf States that pay higher wages. These workers send money home – 30% of Nepal's GDP comes from foreign remittances. Charities progress reports frequently mention construction training programs. These training programs are less effective in addressing Nepal's reconstruction as, once trained, skilled labour leaves. In the disaster-affected areas, 17% of families report a migrant member – a man, most likely - working abroad to earn money for the family<sup>10</sup>. This severe workforce shortage is one factor in Nepal's sluggish pace of recovery.<sup>11</sup>

Recognizing this reality, World Renew paid foreign market wages so construction workers would stay in Nepal to help communities rebuild.<sup>12</sup>

#### Habitat for Humanity

**Raised US\$3.4 million** No financial information found on spending

Donor report: [Nepal Earthquake: Rebuilding Progress, One Year On](#)  
[Nepal Earthquake 2 Years On](#)

Financial information Not found

Expertise Long-term housing

**Key Activities:** Habitat for Humanity has built 87 homes with another 63 homes under construction as at January 12, 2017. It is rebuilding in 5 villages in Kavrepalanchok and 11 villages in Nuwakot. It does not provide cash, rather building materials and volunteered-labour. Habitat's houses use sustainable, low-cost building materials like bamboo and compressed brick, supporting local businesses. Habitat volunteers pay for their travel to Nepal and work on building sites for 4 days.

Habitat for Humanity also did disaster response distributing 5,142 shelter kits, 2,424 winterized kits, assessed 16,244 homes, removed 650 tons of rubble, trained 116 workers and taught safe shelter awareness to 632 people.

Both Habitat for Humanity and World Renew report receiving US\$3.4 million in donations. Habitat has built 87 homes with 63 under construction, and World Renew has built 81 homes with 120 under construction.

### Comparing results – homes built in Nepal

Without financial information found on Samaritan's Purse, World Renew, or Habitat for Humanity, donors have only pictures of homes built to compare the charities' work. From the pictures, Samaritan's Purse and World Renew look better.

Samaritan's Purse



World Renew



Habitat for Humanity



## Other major charities doing disaster response work in Nepal

### Canadian Red Cross

Raised: C\$27.4 million

Spending \$7.1 million

Phase 1 Disaster - 26% spent

\$19.2 million to spend in Phase 2 and Phase 3

Donor report

[Two Years On – Donor Update Nepal Earthquake](#)

Financial information

Spent \$7.1m in disaster phase including \$3.5 million for the field hospital and \$3.6 million in humanitarian aid.

Expertise

Multi-service humanitarian provider.

**Key Activities:** Canadian Red Cross provided cash grants in the disaster phase to 6,380 families to rebuild their homes. In early 2016, Canadian Red Cross provided a second round of cash grants to 8,900 families to buy tools, seeds and livestock. No dollar value of these cash distributions was found to assess what proportion of Canadian Red Cross's aid was in cash.

Canadian Red Cross focused on rebuilding health care infrastructure like regional hospitals and local medical clinics. The earthquake destroyed 14 of the district's 19 health clinics. Eleven health clinics have been rebuilt so far. Canadian Red Cross repaired and provided medical equipment and supplies to 15 health clinics and one hospital. It built and fixed 28 water points and 910 latrines. For disaster preparedness, Canadian Red Cross trained 1,200 people to be Red Cross first responders.

Like Doctors Without Borders, Canadian Red Cross deployed a field hospital in the immediate aftermath of the earthquake. In May 2015, Canadian Red Cross set up an emergency field hospital in Dhunche. Dhunche's 15-bed hospital had completely collapsed in the April earthquake, killing 7 hospital staff.

In the Phase 1: Disaster Phase, 110 Canadians were deployed to Nepal, treating 4,300 patients<sup>13</sup> (twice the consultations of Doctors Without Borders) and safely delivering 31 babies in the hospital.<sup>14</sup> Canadian Red Cross handed over the emergency unit in August 2015. At that time, the hospital rebuilding was planned to start in February 2016. Yet in September 2017, Canadian Red Cross tents are still being used but are flimsy and in deteriorating condition. Canadian Red Cross has committed Rs42.4 million (US\$405,000) for the hospital reconstruction<sup>15</sup>. This is 2% of total donations received.

*“ Service delivery has been hugely affected due to the lack of a proper building for the hospital. During winter, it is very tough to protect the newborns from cold”.*

Dr. Jhalak Gautama, chief of Rasuwa District Hospital

Canadian Red Cross hospital tent still in use September 2017



### Save the Children

Raised: not found

Spending: No information found

Donor report

[Nepal Earthquake Response: Winterization Program Report](#)

[Did the Humanitarian Response to the Nepal Earthquake Ensure No One Was Left Behind?](#)

Financial information

No information found

Expertise

Development – focus on children

**Key Activities:** Save the Children did three cash distributions. In June 2015 Save the Children provided an unconditional cash grant to 4,772 families, later a \$150 cash grant to extremely poor families, and a \$75 cash transfer to 5,635 families (\$422,625) to help them prepare for winter. Without financial numbers one cannot assess what proportion cash grants are of overall spending.

In the Phase 1 Disaster response, Save the Children got emergency food to 2,552 households, including micronutrients to 18,432 children under age two. It helped register over 100,000 households for aid distributions and cash.

Save the Children's shelter programs look good with it providing corrugated galvanized iron sheets, building materials and tools. Like Canadian Red Cross, Save the Children provided mobile health clinics in 24 village providing medical services to over 3,700 people. It is currently building 18 semi-permanent health clinics in remote villages. It built 586 temporary schools and winterized 77%.

**Plan International**

Raised: \$28 million      Spending: 40% spent in three highest need areas

Donor report      [Nepal Quake: Two Years On, Education Must Remain Top Priority](#)

Financial information      Financial information provided.

Expertise      Development – focus on girls and education

**Key Highlights:** Plan International had a good spending mix in cash and shelter: 40% of total disaster funds were spent in the three highest needs. Plan spent 21% of funds on cash grants to 13,298 households. Plan International spent 29% on transition shelter materials, with 10,089 households receiving metal sheeting and tools.

Plan International’s donor marketing positions its expertise in education, particularly with girls. Since the earthquake, Plan has built 12 new schools (not including temporary schools), with 10 more in construction.<sup>16</sup> In addition, Plan International repaired and restocked 32 health clinics, built 227 water and sanitation facilities in temporary schools.

One drawback is Plan International distributed a lot of hygiene kits; 71,384 kits that cost between \$1.4 million to \$2.9 million (costs before storage and distribution). Growing evidence suggests hygiene kits have low to no impact. This money could be spent in other areas for better results.

**Oxfam International**

Raised: US\$56 million      Spending not found

Donor report      [Building Back Stronger: One year on from the Nepal earthquake](#)

Financial information      No information found on money spent or spending per sector.

Expertise      Development - water and sanitation (WASH), farming, gender equality

**Key Activities:** Oxfam’s donor update reports a 20-day cash-for-work program hired 42 families to restore a water pipeline and storage tank that will benefit around 400 to 500 people. Another report says it gave cash grants of 2,000 rupees (\$20) to 6,000 people (\$1.2 million)<sup>17</sup>.

Oxfam’s key priorities in the Nepal response were water/sanitation and emergency food, rather than cash and shelter. Under shelter, Oxfam distributed tarps and corrugated galvanized iron sheets to an estimated 6,000 families. One of Oxfam’s largest areas of spending was providing shelter materials and winter kits that include thermal floor mats, groundsheets, blankets and hot water bottles to help families survive the winter<sup>18</sup>.

## Nepal's local charity, Dhurmus Suntali Foundation, sets the bar for excellence

Pessimists may see disaster response as hopeless, particularly in countries as politically-dysfunctional and corrupt as Nepal. The ten charities reviewed plan to build 1,100 permanent homes, which is perhaps inconsequential relative to the estimated 800,000 homes destroyed by Nepal's earthquake.

Yet charity giving can have a huge impact. Nepal's Dhurmus Suntali Foundation is highly effective. In rural areas destroyed by the earthquake, Dhurmus Suntali has re-built three entire villages and 110 houses. Each house is earthquake resistant, has two storeys, four rooms, a toilet, water supply, drainage, grain storage, solar panels for light, and roof tops for television antenna. A village is not just houses. In each village Dhurmus Suntali has also built temples, children's parks, gardens, a community centre, public toilets, and parking lots. The total costs for each house is an estimated US\$7,840.

*"If we were waiting for the government, we would still be in plastic tents.  
We are lucky to get the support of the Dhurmus Suntali Foundation."*

Ram Bahadur Tamang,  
community leader of Giranchaur,  
a village rebuilt by Dhurmus Suntali Foundation.

## One last note, because facts matter

Wikipedia's page on the Nepal Earthquake incorrectly states Canada contributed \$4.16 million "with \$832,000 to Canadian Red Cross"<sup>19</sup>. The Canadian government alone provided \$90.7 million for Nepal's earthquake disaster response (see Table of Global Affairs Canada grants to Nepal). On top of the \$4.5 million Canadian Red Cross received from Global Affairs Canada, it received an additional \$22.9 million in donations.

There is no final tally but Canadians (individuals, companies and governments) **gave over \$113 million to Nepal's disaster response.**

<b>Grants to Nepal projects by Global Affairs Canada</b>	
Total funding April 2015-2018	\$000's
<b>Total Canadian Government funding</b>	<b>90,715</b>
UN Agencies:	
UNHCR	64,225
UN – World Food Program	7,500
UN – Food and Agriculture (FAO)	2,000
UN – UNICEF	1,750
UN – OCHA	250
<b>Total to UN Agencies</b>	<b>75,725</b>
International charities:	
Canadian Red Cross	4,473
Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ARDA)	1,400
CARE Canada	1,350
Samaritan's Purse	1,300
Action Against Hunger	1,000
Plan International	1,000
Int'l Federation of Red Cross	750
Canadian Bar Association	717
Doctors of the World	700
Global Medic	600
Save the Children Canada	600
World Vision Canada	450
Christian Children's Fund of Canada	350
Oxfam Canada	300
<b>Total to charities</b>	<b>14,990</b>

Source: Global Affairs Canada <sup>20</sup>

### Next time

Donors need to evaluate their giving, and examine how their giving could be better. It is human nature to seek to improve. We strive to do better. We learn to give better next time.

Generosity alone is not enough. One must always ask if giving did the most good possible. To answer this question, comparisons are needed. For example, GAC's \$64 million donation to UNHCR could have built 6,400 Dhurmas Suntali Foundation homes. This would house 29,000 people who may be currently living in plastic tents three years after the earthquake.

*"We don't need to give more money for disaster aid to be more effective, we just need to give better."*

**About Charity Intelligence:** Charity Intelligence’s mission is to help Canadian donors be informed and give intelligently. We do this through objective and independent research on Canadian charities.

Charity Intelligence’s total costs to report and evaluate Nepal’s earthquake disaster response since April 2015 are \$11,900. This is entirely funded by Canadian donors. If you found this evaluation useful, please share it with your friends and join us on Facebook and Twitter [@CharityIntel](#)

Please consider donating to support our research.

Charity Intelligence researches Canadian charities for donors to be informed and give intelligently. Charity Intelligence’s website posts free reports on more than 700 Canadian charities, as well as in-depth primers on philanthropic sectors like Canada’s environment, cancer, and homelessness. Today over 325,000 Canadians use Charity Intelligence’s website as a go-to source for information on Canadian charities reading over 1.3 million charity reports. Through rigorous and independent research, Charity Intelligence aims to assist Canada’s dynamic charitable sector in being more transparent, accountable and focused on results.

**Be Informed. Give Intelligently. Have Impact.**

Charitable Registration Number: 80340 7956 RR0001

For charities: If you would like your registered charity’s response to the Nepal earthquake included, please post and provide links to your progress reports, including financial and program information. We want information in the public domain for all to read, not just large funders. Please email these links to [kbahen at charityintelligence.ca](mailto:kbahen@charityintelligence.ca) with “Nepal Earthquake” in the subject line. Please highlight how your charity programs help with Nepal’s most pressing needs for long-term shelter, cash, and farm support.

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<sup>1</sup> Ojha, Baldry, Shrestha, [“Two years after the earthquake, why has Nepal failed to recover?”](#), The Conversation, May 12, 2017

<sup>2</sup> Charity Intelligence, [Nepal Earthquake – Giving Tips for Donors on Canadian Charities](#), April 30, 2015

<sup>3</sup> GroundTruth Solutions, “Community Survey – Nepal Round 3”, October 13, 2015  
[http://groundtruthsolutions.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Nepal\\_Community\\_Survey\\_R3.2015.pdf](http://groundtruthsolutions.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Nepal_Community_Survey_R3.2015.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> [“Victims twice over: MSF continues to assist people affected by the two earthquakes in Nepal”](#), MSF Website, June 2, 2015

Also Doctors Without Borders, [International Activity Report 2015](#) p70

<sup>5</sup> World Vision’s financial transparency could improve. WVI reports spending as a share of “direct program costs only”, with no full explanation of what this excludes. Cash distributions are not reported separately but are imbedded in sector information.

<sup>6</sup> World Vision International [“Cash First, but not always”](#), May 16, 2016

<sup>7</sup> Sarah Holst, [“Improving relief distribution in post-earthquake Nepal through citizen engagement”](#), Winner of the 2016 Feedbacks Labs, June 3, 2016

<sup>8</sup> Build Change <http://www.buildchange.org/locations/nepal/>

<sup>9</sup> Caralee Giebeig, [“Rebuilding in Nepal After Devastating Earthquakes”](#), Samaritan’s Purse, August 31, 2017

<sup>10</sup> Inter Agency Common Feedback Project, [“Reconstruction and Food Security and Livelihood”](#), p.22 August 2017

<sup>11</sup> UN Development Programme, [“Plugging the gaps in recovery efforts”](#), Sept. 7, 2017

<sup>12</sup> Grace Wiebe, [“Ongoing Reconstruction in Nepal”](#), World Renew, March 2017

<sup>13</sup> Canadian Red Cross [“Resilience in recovery: three months since the Nepal earthquake”](#), Canadian Red Cross blog, July 24, 2015

<sup>14</sup> Corrie Butler, [“Surgery amid disaster in Nepal: A patient reflects two years later”](#) Canadian Red Cross blog, April 17, 2017

<sup>15</sup> Balaram Ghimire, [“No end to Rasuwa’s tent treatment; Health facility destroyed in 2015 earthquake yet to be rebuild”](#), Kathmandu Post, September 17, 2017

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<sup>16</sup> Plan International, “Nepal Quake: Two Years On, Education Must Remain Top Priority”, April 25, 2017 <https://plan-international.org/news/education-must-remain-top-priority-nepals-recovery#>

<sup>17</sup> Oxfam International, Building Back Stronger: One year on from the Nepal Earthquake, April 20, 2016 <https://oxfaminternational.exposure.co/building-back-stronger>

<sup>18</sup> “Humanitarian Quality Assurance: Nepal, Evaluation of Oxfam’s response to the 2015 earthquake”, April 2017. p.47 no figures provided, simply a comment. <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/er-humanitarian-nepal-effectiveness-review-190417-en.pdf>

Save the Children’s “*Did the Humanitarian Response to the Nepal Earthquake Ensure No One Was Left Behind? : A case study on the experience of marginalized groups in humanitarian action.*” March 2016 [https://assets.savethechildren.ch/downloads/nepal\\_earthquake\\_gesi\\_report\\_march\\_2016.pdf](https://assets.savethechildren.ch/downloads/nepal_earthquake_gesi_report_march_2016.pdf)

<sup>19</sup> Wikipedia, April 2015 Nepal Earthquake [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/April\\_2015\\_Nepal\\_earthquake](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/April_2015_Nepal_earthquake)

<sup>20</sup> Global Affairs Canada, Government of Canada – advanced search of project funding using “Nepal” and date range April 2015-April 2018 <http://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/filter-filtre>