WFP News Video
UN World Food Programme Airlifts Child Monks in Nepal

WFP News Video: Nepal Earthquake
Lho (Ghorka)/Kathmandu, Nepal
Shot: 10/15 June 2015
TRT: 2:14

Shotlist
:00-:06
Aerial Himalaya Mountains near Lho, Nepal
Shot: 10, June 2015

:06-:15
Child monks living under tarpaulins after their monastery was destroyed and isolated by the earthquakes that struck Nepal on 25 April and 12 May.
Lho, Nepal
Shot: 10, June 2015

:15-:41
SOT (English): Iolanda Jaquemet, WFP Spokesperson
Kathmandu, Nepal
Shot: 15, June 2015
“We received a unique request from the Nepal authorities. This particular “gompa” or Buddhist monastery, high in the Himalayas, had been severely damaged by the earthquakes and the monks have been cut off from the world because the trails both to the north and the south had been destroyed by landslides. They were living under tarpaulins with insufficient quantities of food and the young ones have lost their prospect for education.”

:41-:46
WFP helicopters taking off to bring materials to repair Lho monastery and airlift the children.
Kathmandu, Nepal
Shot: 10, June 2015

:46-:51
Aerial Buddhist Bodnath Stupa, damaged in 25 April 2015 earthquake
Kathmandu, Nepal
Shot 10, June 2015

:51-01:05
Aerials helo arrival at Lho, Nepal  
Shot: 10, June 2015

01:05-01:45  
Child monks (60 total) and their caretakers boarding and flying on WFP helos to Deaurali  
Lho, Nepal  
Shot: 10, June 2015

01:45-02:01  
SOT (English): Iolanda Jaquemet, WFP Spokesperson  
Kathmandu, Nepal  
Shot: 15, June 2015

“As the World Food Programme was flying, anyway, emergency relief supplies into the area, our helicopters took out 60 monks to the safety of the low lands, from there they will be dispatched to monasteries in safe areas of Nepal”

02:01-02:14  
Child monks and caretakers disembarking WFP helos at Deirali, Nepal  
Shot: 10, June 2015

ENDS

At the request of Nepalese authorities, the World Food Programme has transported 60 children and their caretakers from a monastic school (known as a gompa) in Lho, Gorkha that was cut off from the world by the April and May earthquakes. Lho is a small Himalayas village near the border with Tibet.

The monastery, dormitories and kitchen were badly damaged by the 25 April earthquake and the 12 May quake destroyed the telecommunications tower and caused landslides that made the trail to the village impassable.

The headmaster of the monastery requested the evacuation because he was worried there wasn’t enough food for the monks and students.

In early June, word of the monastery’s plight reached the Chief District Officer of Gorkha who in turn asked the UN for help. After consulting with the Nepal Central Child Welfare Board in Kathmandu (CCWB) and relevant district authorities, UNICEF and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) accepted to assist in the evacuation of 60 children, aged between five and 18 years, and engaged WFP to provide the transport.
A WFP MI8 helicopter was used to evacuate the children, and on each rotation it carried in shelter materials so those remaining at the monastery could make repairs. The helicopter is part of the common logistics services that WFP provides to the wider humanitarian community responding to the earthquake disaster. These services include a network of logistics hubs, helicopters, a fleet of trucks and telecommunications services.

WFP has also provided food to nearly 2 million people in areas hit hardest by the disaster. WFP is now working with porters to bring food and other relief items to people in the highest-altitude areas, and to repair parts of Nepal’s vital trail network.

Nepal’s high mountains and very difficult terrain make operations complex and expensive. You can help by making a donation at wfp.org/Nepal.

WFP is the world’s largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide, delivering food assistance in emergencies and working with communities to improve nutrition and build resilience. Each year, WFP assists some 80 million people in around 75 countries.

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