

## Yr11 Responses of Earthquakes Work

### 2.4 Responses to earthquakes

On this spread you will find out about responses to earthquakes in Chile and Nepal

**Example**

#### Responding to earthquakes

There are two different types of response to natural disasters such as earthquakes:

- ◆ **Immediate responses** – search and rescue and keeping survivors alive by providing medical care, food, water and shelter.
- ◆ **Long-term responses** – re-building and reconstruction, with the aim of returning people's lives back to normal and reducing future risk.

**Did you know?**  
The last earthquake to hit Kathmandu was in 1934 when over 10,000 people were killed.


#### Comparing responses in Chile and Nepal

Earthquakes in Chile are quite common. Local communities and the government were prepared and knew how to respond quickly and effectively to the earthquake. Chile had the money to support people and to rebuild.

Earthquakes in Nepal are not uncommon. Scientists have identified a pattern of large earthquakes in this region every 80 years or so. Despite these warnings and new building regulations, not enough had been done to prepare the city and its people for when the earthquake struck.

##### Chile: immediate responses


- ◆ Emergency services acted swiftly. International help needed to supply field hospitals, satellite phones and floating bridges.
- ◆ Temporary repairs made to the important Route 5 north-south highway within 24 hours, enabling aid to be transported from Santiago to affected areas.
- ◆ Power and water restored to 90% of homes within 10 days.
- ◆ A national appeal raised US\$60 million – enough to build 30,000 small emergency shelters (photo A).



**A** Temporary wooden shelters for those made homeless by the earthquake

##### Chile: long-term responses

- ◆ A month after the earthquake Chile's government launched a housing reconstruction plan to help nearly 200,000 households affected by the earthquake.
- ◆ Chile's strong economy, based on copper exports, could be rebuilt without the need for much foreign aid.
- ◆ The President announced it could take four years for Chile to recover fully from the damage to buildings and ports (photo B).



**B** Buildings destroyed by the Chile earthquake

**TASK 1:** Give a definition with an example for the two different types of response: immediate and long-term.

**TASK 2:** Compare the different responses in Chile and Nepal.

**TASK 3:** Write a report on how Chile responded to the earthquake it suffered in 2010. Try to consider both the immediate and long-term responses.