



**Mexico Earthquake Disaster Relief and Rehabilitation
Project Report - 2017**



Meals Served
50,000+

MEXICO IN NEED: The central Mexico earthquake struck on September 19th, 2017 with an estimated magnitude of Mw 7.1 and strong shaking for about 20 seconds. Its epicenter was about 55 km south of the city of Puebla . The areas around the epicenter of the earthquake, including Mexico City, which homes close to 30% of the population of Mexico were devastated. According to ground reports, hundreds of buildings toppled, leaving thousands of people trapped in the rubble. The people who could escape their crumbling homes were left to sleep on the streets, without protection against the downpour of heavy rain.¹



Thousands of Mexicans, living in rural areas, have lost their homes and livelihoods during the earthquakes.

STATISTICS by UNITED NATIONS:

As of September 21, the Government of Mexico (GOM) and international media reported that the earthquake had resulted in at least 250 deaths, injured an estimated 1,900 people, and damaged more than 20,000 buildings across central Mexico. The UN reports that at least 45 buildings have collapsed in Mexico City; relief workers had cleared 11 of these buildings and rescued 52 people.²





Medical Supplies
10,000+

RESCUE EFFORTS:

The UN-affiliated NGO, UNITED SIKHS' staff and volunteer teams were activated to provide emergency assistance and disaster relief all over the affected areas, especially where no aid had reached.

Schools were closed, and apartments became unsafe to live in. Everyone seemed to be in a state of shock, fear and uncertainty. UNITED SIKHS volunteers attended to the dire situation of homeless people, many were still trapped under the collapsed buildings.



(Left) People forming human chains to help rescue and aid efforts in the center of Mexico City.



(Right). Rescued people standing in open to safeguard their lives.

GROUND OPERATIONS

The UNITED SIKHS team had served as a conduit to provide emergency resources for relief shelters in Mexico City, helping them remain functional in this critical period.



UNITED SIKHS volunteers working with local authorities for repair work

Volunteers spent the entire day removing giant pieces of rubble from the roads of Tetela Del Volcan.



Homes Rebuilt
100+



Volunteers working to clear the rubble with the help of locals.

While the Mexican people were inspired to help their fellow brothers and sisters facing tragedy in urban areas, remote areas outside of Mexico City were yet to receive the assistance they required. In Remote areas of Oaxaca, Chiapas, Morelos & Puebla the entire towns have been decimated. Bridges and roads had collapsed making it hard for people to evacuate or for aid to enter those areas.

RELIEF WORK:

UNITED SIKHS Mexico team was activated to reach the remote areas whose relief needs were acute and critical. Undeterred by road and bridge conditions, volunteers travelled 4-5 hours to bring warm meals to those in need.



UNITED SIKHS Volunteer team mobilizing Langar (Free meals).



Blanket Distributed
1200+



Volunteers helping distribute bedding and food to people living in temporary housing.



People in Jujutala live in tents because their homes were destroyed. UNITED SIKHS Mexico team hard at work, bringing them food, blankets, bedding, and other essentials to help them rebuild.



“Our principal focus is to provide shelter, food and water, and eventually helping in the reconstruction of these communities and the tools that will rebuilt their means to make an honest living,” Prabhu Keerat Kaur, Team Co-Lead, UNITED SIKHS Mexico.

be a light for whoever in this moment feels surrounded by darkness.” Akal Sahai Kaur, Volunteer, UNITED SIKHS Mexico.



“Mexicans are ready to work and do what is necessary to support each other. “We want to re-build our communities based in the universal love that bonds us as a human race, and we as Sikhs in Mexico would like to

Assistance in Remote Areas:

Due to the collapse of buildings and homes, Mexico City and surrounding rural areas required immediate medical professional help. Our Volunteers with the support of local community and medical team reached out in the remote areas, providing all the help needed.



Medical aid and support work carried out by volunteers



Meals Served
50,000+



Blankets distributed
5000+



Medical Supplies
over 10,000+



Home Rebuilt
100+

To truly make a difference and realize Guru Nanak's mission of Oneness, we need the help of the entire Sikh community to uplift and empower our Mexican sisters and brothers.

We are committed to showing the world what it takes to realize Guru Gobind Singh Ji's words:

“Recognize the Human Race as One.”

¹<https://reliefweb.int/disaster/eq-2017-000138-mex>

²https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1866/mexico_eq_fs01_09-21-2017.pdf



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