

DREF operation update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Nepal: Flood and Landslide

DREF operation n° MDRNP003
GLIDE n° [FL-2009-000291-NPL](#)
Update n° 2
13 January 2010

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.

Period covered by this update:

2 December to 6 January 2009

CHF 307,240 (USD 302,858 or EUR202,870) was allocated from the International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 19 October to support the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) in delivering immediate assistance to 4,000 families with non-food relief items as well as to replenish disaster preparedness stocks distributed to the affected population. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: The monsoon in October 2009 caused floods and landslides in Nepal affecting 14 districts in the mid- and far-western regions, of which Kailali, Bardiya, Banke, Dadeldhura, Achham and Kanchanpur districts were most affected. The disaster claimed 78 lives, affecting more than 175,000 people (29,141 families), while more than 15,000 people (2,802 families) were fully displaced.



Flood affected people receiving non-food relief item sets distributed by Nepal Red Cross Society in Kailali district. Photo: Nepal Red Cross Society

In response to the disaster, the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) provided relief assistance to the affected population through its widespread network of volunteers in the community. The NRCS has deployed more than 350 trained volunteers and staff for the emergency assessment, registration of affected people, distribution of pre-stored food and non-food relief items (including tarpaulins, blankets, kitchen sets and cloth sets) and the delivery of first aid services. In addition, the national society assisted in the search and rescue and evacuation operations together with other local stakeholders in the districts, mainly with the district disaster relief committees (DDRC) of the government.

The NRCS conducted detailed assessments of the disaster affected areas and distributed non-food relief item sets to the affected families. So far, the national society has completed its relief operation in ten districts out of 14 affected districts, providing non-food relief item sets to more than 3,200 families.

The NRCS has been working in coordination with the Government of Nepal, international humanitarian agencies and local organizations in the relief operation. The national society has the lead role in the distribution of non-food relief items, including emergency shelter items.

The relief operation is expected to be implemented over three months; however, the replenishment of non-food relief item stocks through local procurement (supported by DREF) is expected to be completed by 19 April 2010. In line with the International Federation reporting standards, a final report will be available three months after the end of the operation (by 19 July 2010).

The Netherlands Red Cross Society/Netherlands government has contributed EUR 20,000 (CHF 30,193) towards the replenishment of the DREF for the allocation made to this operation. This is in addition to the contribution of CAD 50,000 (CHF 49,703) received from the Canadian government in the replenishment of the same allocation.

The International Federation, on behalf of the Nepal Red Cross Society, would like to thank all donors and partners for their generous support to DREF.

[<click here for contact details, or here to view the map of the affected area>](#)

The situation



Beneficiaries receiving non-food relief items from the Nepal Red Cross Society. Photo: Nepal Red Cross Society.

Heavy rains from the tail end of the monsoon in October 2009 caused floods and landslides in the mid- and far-western regions of Nepal, affecting 175,000 people (29,141 families) and displacing 15,000 people (2,802 families). A total of 78 people were killed, while 37 people were injured due to the disaster.

To date, since the flood water receded, people whose houses were not affected and displaced families who were taking shelter in schools have returned to their houses. Geographically, the affected areas are very much scattered and, due to the remoteness, access remains difficult in the mid- and far-western regions. The road network is limited in the affected areas; however, the communication system is functional.

The Government of Nepal, particularly the district disaster relief committees (DDRC), continue to coordinate the relief operation. The government has allocated NPR 150 million (CHF 2,019,211 or USD 2,002,670) for staple food distribution, health, water and sanitation and early recovery activities to be implemented through district disaster relief committees and other government line offices in the affected districts. As planned, the DDRC in the affected districts are distributing food items (20 kg rice and 1 kg salt per family) to the affected people. Similarly, health camps are being run and the renovation of the water and sanitation units are ongoing through the government line offices in the affected districts. Besides, other international and local non-government organizations have been involved in the relief operation.

Kailali and Kanchanpur districts were identified as the worst-affected districts whose affected population are in need of early recovery programmes. In addition to the government support, the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) plans to address the recovery needs of the flood-affected people in these districts through its ongoing recovery initiative which was launched in 2008 in response to the floods of that year.

Coordination and partnerships

The NRCS is an ex-officio member of the Nepal government's central natural disaster relief committee (CNDRC) which is headed by the country's Minister of Home Affairs. Likewise, the district chapters are members of the district disaster relief committee which is headed by the chief district officer. Three national level meetings have been organized by the Ministry of Home Affairs in the chairmanship of the prime minister and other line ministries in order to discuss and make action plans for the response.

In addition, the Ministry of Home Affairs recently convened a CNDRC meeting which was chaired by the Ministry of Home Affairs itself and secretaries of all line ministries were the attendees. The meeting reviewed the operation and explored possibilities to generate resources for recovery activities. The NRCS participated in these meetings and has been coordinating its actions with the respective government authorities. The Nepal government had requested the NRCS to manage emergency shelter assistance through the provision of tarpaulins and non-food relief items.

The NRCS national headquarters is coordinating with central level government agencies, the International Federation, the Danish Red Cross and other national level stakeholders to secure prompt response and fill the gaps observed at the district level. Similarly, the NRCS district chapters are coordinating their activities with DDRC, the UN field office, Care Nepal, Christian Relief Fund, Mercy Corps, Save the Children and World Vision International. Regular coordination meetings are held at the district level.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Since the onset of floods and landslides, the NRCS district chapters in the affected areas have mobilized more than 350 trained volunteers and some staff for the emergency situation assessments and providing prompt relief assistance to the affected population. The NRCS national headquarters activated an emergency operation centre within the disaster management department. In addition, the NRCS headquarters provided financial support to each of the district chapters in the most-affected areas to help them mobilize their volunteers, coordinate relief activities, distribute relief goods and maintain communications.

Following the initial assessment and emergency assistance to the disaster affected population, the NRCS conducted a detailed assessment of the affected areas and distributed non-food relief item sets. To date, the NRCS has distributed 3,281 non-food relief item sets, 1,121 tarpaulins, 620 plastics mats, 820 blankets and 620 water storing jars and completed distributions in ten out of the 14 affected districts. The national society plans to finalize distributions in the remaining four districts within a few weeks. During the reporting period, the NRCS has refilled the stocks in the regional warehouses, located at Mahendranagar and Nepalgunj.

This DREF operation has provided assistance to the NRCS to fill the gaps and to prepare for future disasters through replenishing stocks.

Progress towards objectives

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: To assist 4,000 families (approximately 24,000 people) affected by floods and landslides with provision of 4,000 sets of non-food relief items to secure their immediate needs and livelihood.

Expected results	Activities
Approximately 4,000 families (24,000 people) affected by floods and landslides have directly benefited with non-food relief items (including a tarpaulin, a blanket, a clothes set and a kitchen set) distributed by the NRCS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop beneficiary list targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distribute non-food relief item sets to identified 4,000 families affected by floods and landslides.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replenish non-food relief item sets distributed.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequent field visits from the national headquarters to monitor and evaluate the relief

	activities.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide reporting on relief distributions. • Organize lessons learned workshop and develop an exit strategy.

Progress and impact

The NRCS district chapters in the affected areas have actively been involved in the relief operation since the onset of the disaster event. They have mobilized more than 350 volunteers, including district disaster response team members and staff, who are still in the field to carry out the operation. The immediate response by the NRCS included distribution of locally collected ready-to-eat food such as beaten rice, instant noodles, biscuits, and non-food relief item packages, comprising of a blanket, a tarpaulin, clothing materials, and a kitchen set. During the emergency, the NRCS distributed food items to more than 48,000 people from 8,050 families with the support of the government (DDRC).

Following the initial assessment and emergency response to the disaster-affected people, the NRCS conducted a detailed field assessment of the affected areas, prepared beneficiary lists and developed a registration system to deliver intended assistance. To date, 3,281 non-food relief item sets, 1,121 tarpaulins, 620 plastics mats, 820 blankets and 620 water storing jars have been distributed, and the distribution has been completed in ten out of the 14 affected districts.

Since the operation has been extended to six months, a new plan of action has been prepared and followed. The NRCS also plans to meet the recovery needs of the population in the Kailali and Kanchanpur districts through the ongoing recovery programme in these areas which was launched as a response to the 2008 floods..

The details of the non-food relief items and tarpaulin distribution are given in the following table:

S.N.	Affected district	Expected number of distribution (NFRI set)	Distributed sets/items		Number NFRI set still to be distributed
			^a Non-food relief item set	Additional tarpaulin	
1	Acham	280	280	0	0
2	Dadeldhura	274	274	0	0
3	Doti	475	475	2	0
4	Kailali	1,500	800	923	700
5	Kanchanpur	586	586	196	0
6	Baitadi	188	188	0	0
7	Myagdi	34	34	0	0
8	Syanja	36	36	0	0
9	Arghakhachi	60	60	0	0
10	Parbat	7	7	0	0
11	Bardiya	68	40	0	28
12	Bajhang	250	250	0	0
13	Bankey	200	174	0	26
14	Dang	83	77	0	6
	Total	4,041	3,281	1,121	760

^aNon-food relief item set includes a tarpaulin, a blanket, a clothes set and a kitchen set,

Challenges

During the first few days, assessments, rescue and relief operations were hampered in some of the affected areas due to the partial or complete breakdown in communication systems and transportation networks. Some areas were inaccessible due to the heavy rainfall; however, the situation has improved as floodwater levels receded in the affected areas. The NRCS needs to strengthen its response system through district preparedness plans.

Logistics

Objective: To facilitate overall relief operation through provision of effective logistical support such as transportation, volunteer mobilization and other administrative arrangements.

Expected results	Activities
More than 350 NRCS trained volunteers and staff have been mobilized for providing the humanitarian assistance to approximately 24,000 people (4,000 families) .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilization of volunteers in assessments and relief distributions.
Non-food relief items have been dispatched from the central warehouse to regional warehouses and from regional warehouses to respective district chapters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation of non-food relief item sets. • Management of distribution points. • Management of warehouses. • Other general and administrative arrangements. • Control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user.
A total of 4,000 non-food relief item sets have been procured and replenished in the central warehouse.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection of suppliers for each of the non-food relief items. • Procurement of 4,000 non-food relief item sets.

Progress and impact

The NRCS has been carrying out the relief operation in the affected areas based on its existing logistic mechanism extended from central to district level. Initially, the non-food relief item sets were distributed from the stock maintained at the regional NRCS warehouses located at Mahendranagar and Nepalgunj, the western regional hubs. The warehouses have been refilled with non-food relief item sets from the central warehouse.

The procurement of 4,000 non-food relief item sets is ongoing. So far, the national society has completed the procurement of some clothes and tarpaulins. These non-food relief item sets are being replenished through the International Federation (via DREF).

Challenges

Nothing to report at the moment.

Updated timeline

S.N.	Activities	Timeline (in month)						Remarks
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
Objective 1: To assist 4,000 families (approximately 24,000 people) affected by floods and landslides with provision of 4,000 non-food relief item sets to secure their immediate needs and livelihood.								
1.1	Beneficiary identification and registration.							
1.2	Procurement of 4,000 non-food relief item sets.							
1.2	Distribution and or replenishment of non-food relief item sets.							
1.3	Monitoring, evaluation and reporting.							
1.4	Develop an exit strategy.							
Objective 2: To facilitate overall relief operation through provision of effective logistical support such as transportation, volunteer mobilization and other administrative arrangements.								
2.1	Transportation of non-food relief item sets.							
2.2	Management of distribution points.							
2.3	Management of warehouses .							
2.4	Volunteer management and mobilization.							
2.5	Maintain communication mechanism.							
2.6	Other general and administrative arrangements.							

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

In Nepal:

- Nepal Red Cross Society: Pitambar Aryal (Director, Disaster Management Department), email: pitambar.aryal@nrcc.org, phone: +977.14.27.0650, fax: +977.14.27.1915
- International Federation Country Office in Nepal: Victoria Bannon (Federation representative); email: victoria.bannon@ifrc.org or fedoffice@nrcc.org; phone: +977.14.28.5843; fax: +977.14.28.6048

International Federation South Asia Office in Delhi:

- Azmat Ulla (Head of Regional Office); phone: +91.11.2411.1125; fax: +91.11.2411.1128; email: azmat.ulla@ifrc.org;
- Michael Higginson (Regional Programme Coordinator); phone: +91.11.2411.1125; fax: +91.11.2411.1128; email: michael.higginson@ifrc.org;

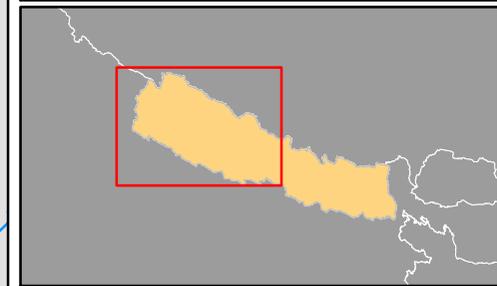
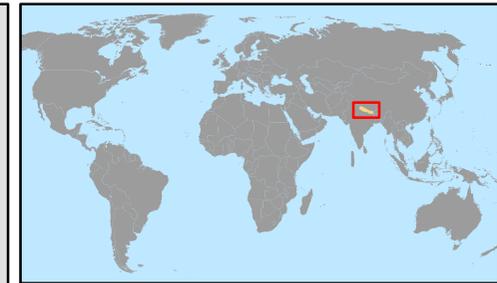
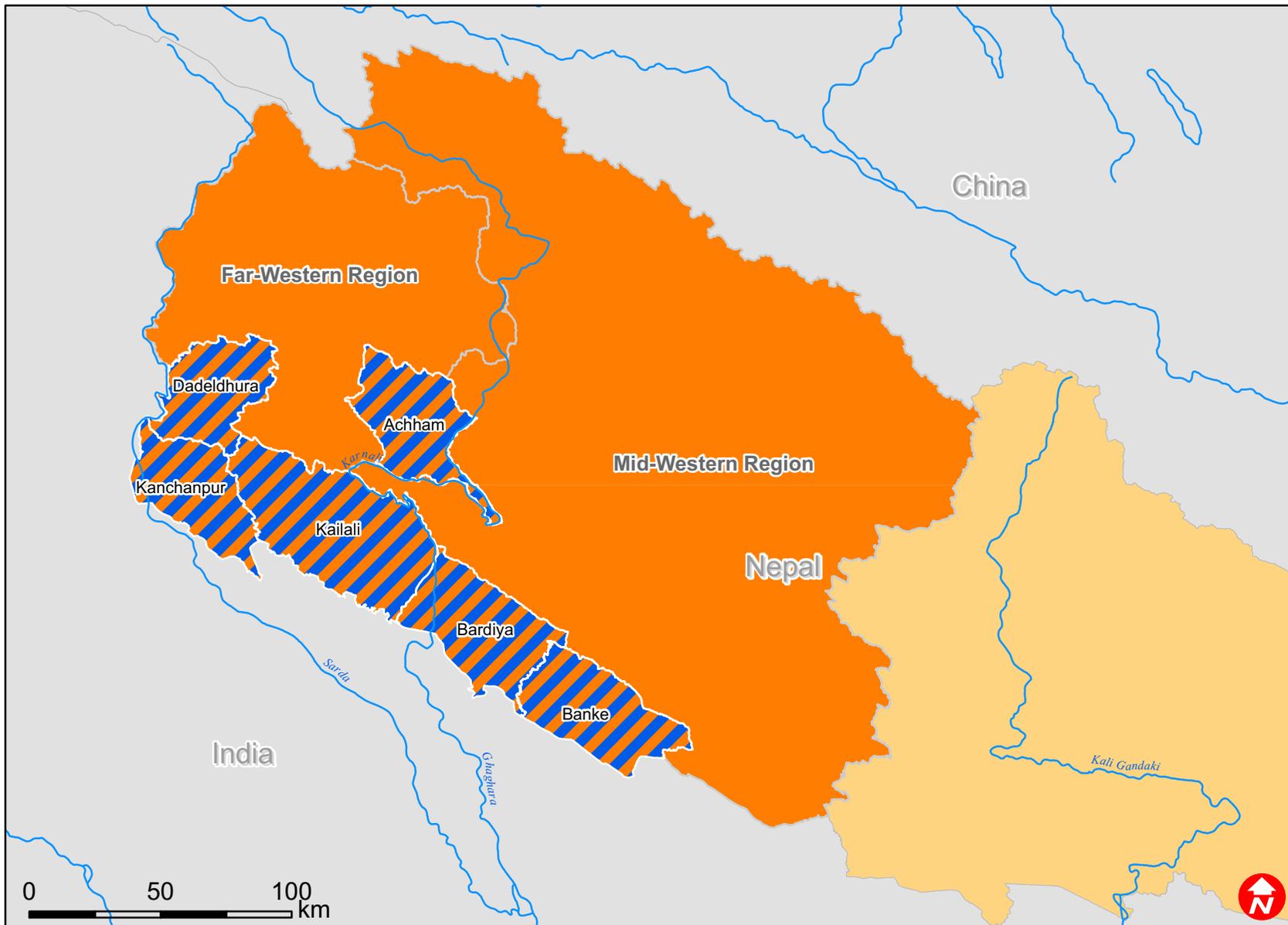
International Federation Asia Pacific zone office in Kuala Lumpur:

- Elzat Mamutalieva, operations coordinator phone: +603 9 207 5727; mobile: +60 19 27 44 960; email: elzat.mamutalieva@ifrc.org;
 - Jagan Chapagain, deputy head of zone office, phone: +603 9207 5700, mobile: +6012 215 3765, email: jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org;
 - Penny Elghady, resource mobilization and PMER coordinator, email: penny.elghady@ifrc.org; phone: +603 9207 5775, fax: +603 2161 0670
- Please send all pledges of funding to zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org;
- Jeremy Francis, regional logistics coordinator, phone: +6012 298 9752, fax: +603 2168 8573, email: jeremy.francis@ifrc.org;
 - Jason Smith, zone communications manager, mobile: +6012 387 0829, email: jason.smith@ifrc.org.

[<click here to return to the title page>](#)



Nepal: Flood and landslide



-  Most affected districts
-  Affected regions