

Nepal: Flood 2017

Office of the Resident Coordinator Situation Report No. 2

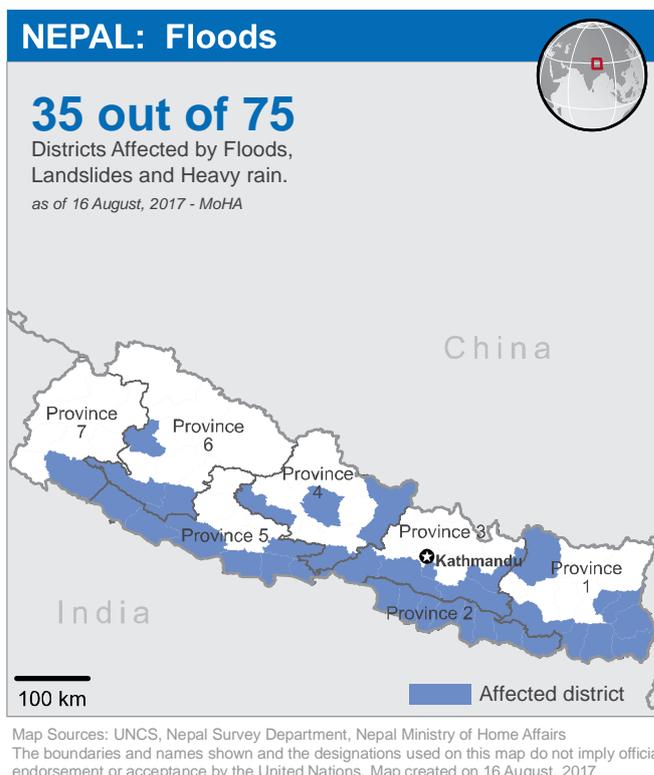
(as of 16 August 2017)



This report is produced by Office of the Resident Coordinator Nepal in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 14 to 16 August 2017.

Highlights

- Over 100,000 people have been rescued to date by formal and informal search and rescue teams.
- Authorities and humanitarian partners reaching more affected areas due to improved weather over the last two days. However, access to affected populations still remains a significant issue as many major transportation routes are damaged or disrupted.
- The Initial Rapid Assessment process initiated in all affected districts, the results of which is expected to be available by 18 August 2017. Some clusters are awaiting these results to finalize their response plans and confirm caseloads.
- Moderate to heavy rains have been forecast across Nepal for the coming days.



+7,000

Houses destroyed
*as per MoHA

75,000

Families affected
*As per NRCS

18,320

Families temporarily
displaced
*As per NRCS

123

Dead
*as per MoHA

35

Missing
*as per MoHA

39

Injured
*as per MoHA

Situation Overview

As of 16 August, 18,320 families are confirmed to have been displaced, and 75,000 families affected by the flooding. Around 27,000 personnel including Nepal Police, Nepal Army, Armed Police Force and civil servants have been mobilised for rescue and relief operations. Over 100,000 people have been rescued to date by formal and informal search and rescue. As of 16 August, more than 100 helicopter flights have taken place to airlift supplies and rescue people.

Water levels in flood-affected areas have been gradually receding as the rainfall has significantly decreased or stopped in most parts of the country. However, the number of affected districts has increased from 27 to 35; Morang, Sunsari, Siraha, Rautahat, Mahottari, Dhanusa, Sindhuli, Bara, Parsa, Dang, Banke and Bardiya are among the worst hit districts. The Ministry of Home Affairs says that over 80 percent of land in the Tarai has been inundated. Hydro-meteorological stations in Banke, Chitwan and Makwanpur recorded the heaviest rainfall in 60 years. Moderate to heavy rains have been forecast across Nepal for the coming days.

All clusters are working at this district level, in coordination with District Disaster Relief Committees (DDRCs). The Initial Rapid Assessment process (IRA) has been initiated in all districts, results of which are expected to be available by 18 August 2017. Newly elected local government officials have been active in helping to coordinate relief, rescue operations, and are actively engaging in and taking responsibility for disaster management.

With the weather in Nepal improving, authorities and humanitarian partners have been able to reach out to affected districts over the past two days and there are reports that security forces and authorities have cleared some roads. However, significant access challenges remain; Biratnagar airport remains closed, and other basic services such as transport routes, electric power and drinking water supplies, and communications are reportedly still disrupted in some places. Several major highways, notably the East-West highway, and inner roads linking villages have been severely damaged.

Funding

The Government of Nepal has released NRs.40 million for relief operations in 19 districts, in addition to the 19.5 million already released by Ministry of Home Affairs (MOHA) for relief and rescue operations. Nepalese private sector sources have pledged an additional NRs.40 million (this includes previously reported funds pledged by private sector actors).

Including the previously reported pledge from the IFRC's disaster relief fund, as of 16 August, the total funds pledged to the flood response is approximately US \$1.3million.

Humanitarian Response



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Needs:

- Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC) has requested assistance in assessing and preparing for the establishment of camps in eight districts: Rautahat, Saptari, Sarlahi, Morang, Siraha, Sunsari, Banke and Bardiya.
- DUDBC has requested immediate shelter support in the temporary shelter sites.

8 districts

Requesting support for assessment of camp establishment

Response:

- Cluster considering rapid joint assessment using the multi-sectoral questionnaires of Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM). Questionnaires to be shared with all cluster members for inputs.
- Cluster members will determine need for further assistance once more detail information on the needs and numbers of displaced is available.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Data on displacement in affected areas unclear.
- Resource constraints.



Education

Needs:

- At least 95 schools are being used as temporary shelters. In addition, others have been seriously damaged and materials destroyed.
- All schools in affected districts are planning to extend the summer vacation for one additional week.
- All District Education Offices (DEOs) in affected to follow the Education Management Information System (EMIS) code, the standard operating procedures and District Education Contingency Plan.

95 schools

Being used to shelter temporarily displaced

Response:

- District Education Cluster activated in all affected districts; coordinating with Shelter and Protection Clusters. as
- District Education Cluster meetings have been held in Chitwan, Mahottari, Dhanusha, Banke and Bara.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Cluster consolidating gaps and challenges in the affected districts.

**Emergency Telecommunications****Needs:**

- As of 16 August, connectivity and power backup in all affected areas have improved.
- Ncell and Nepal Telecom report that connectivity restored in the majority of areas. Connectivity issues remain in Mechi, Koshi and Narayani zones.

Response:

- Necessary intervention with corresponding operators through the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster.

**Food Security****Response:**

- Government has provided ready to eat food to displaced people in Jhapa and the affected population in Sunsari, Saptari, Sarlahi, Dhanusha, Mahhotari, Bara, Rautahat, Dang, Banke, Bardiya and Kailali.
- Teams from the Ministry of Agriculture are deployed in the affected areas to assess the agriculture loss. The Ministry has asked development partners to collaborate on agriculture recovery plan.

**Health****Needs:**

- Six health posts non-functioning due to flood water inundation (four flooded, two destroyed/damaged).
- Potential disease outbreak significant concern.

Response:

- Five government health teams have been deployed from the central level.
- Epidemiology and Disease Control Division (ECDC) is collecting information regularly from affected districts on disease monitoring.
- Ministry of Health and Population has mobilized five health teams to districts for disease monitoring.
- Health cluster working closely with WASH cluster to address issues related to clean drinking water or purified drinking water in communities to prevent disease

Gaps & Constraints:

- Outbreak preparedness plan to be finalized with support from partners, based on vulnerability mapping.
- Mapping of health facilities in affected communities required.
- Transportation of affected people to health facilities is a major problem due to inaccessibility of roads.

**Logistics****Response:**

- Air transportation coordinated by MoHA using Nepal Army air assets.
- Sufficient private sector warehouse and local transport capacity is available in flood-affected areas.
- Although fuel supply from India is temporarily interrupted, no fuel shortages are reported.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Significant road access constraints in the flood-affected areas.

**Nutrition****Needs:**

- Based on initial estimates, the following caseload for nutrition activities have been identified:
 - Care givers of 257,000 children age 0-23 months require breast-feeding counselling
 - Care givers of 194,000 children require counselling on timely and appropriate complementary feeding
 - 103,000 children require treatment for moderate acute malnutrition
 - 18,000 severely acute malnourished children require therapeutic feeding services (for SAM)
 - Micro-nutrient for children and women (Vitamin A supplementation for 556,000 children age 6-59 months, de-worming for 493,000 children 12 to 59 months, MNP for 194,000 children aged 6-23 months, and iron-folic acid (IFA) for 157,000 pregnant and postnatal women.
- All districts have initiated clusters and are making district level plans for nutrition interventions.

Response:

- Integrated management of acute malnutrition ongoing in eight affected districts (Saptari, Sarlahi, Dhanusha, Mahottari, Parsa, Kapilvastu, Bardiya, and Kanchanpur).
- Integrated Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) activities and provision of Micro Nutrient Powder (MNP) for children 6-23 months ongoing in seven districts (Morang, Sunsari, Parsa, Rupendehi, Kapilvastu, Makwanpur and Bardiya).
- In Kanchanpur, Kailali, Bardiya, Dang, Kapilvastu, Rupendehi and Nawalparasi districts, Suahaara programme ongoing and providing essential nutrition actions.
- Nutrition cluster initiated rapid nutrition assessment through MUAC targeting the children 6-59 months.
- Nutrition cluster to strengthen all ongoing interventions in affected districts and provide quality nutrition services to fill the gaps.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Gaps in availability of Supplementary and Therapeutic food to manage Moderate and Severe Acute Malnutrition. Also gaps in supply of Micro-nutrient powder.
- No dedicated funds is available to manage nutrition in emergencies, there is a need for additional funds.



Protection

Needs:

- Pregnant and lactating mothers, disabled and other vulnerable groups are in need of safe shelter spaces, dignity kits and nutritious food, among others.
- Need for prevention of Gender Based Violence (GBV) and trafficking activities.

Response:

- Safe houses identified to provide temporary shelter and food support, particularly to pregnant women, lactating women and other vulnerable women in Dang.
- Female friendly spaces (FFS) and child friendly spaces (CFS) have been established and services being provided. Five female friendly space have been established in Kailali, Morang and Sunsari, Siraha, Bardiya to cater the needs of pregnant, lactating women and adolescent girls.
- Protection cluster members have delivered a total of 2,498 tarpaulins, 155 blankets, and 1,530 bed nets in affected districts; 2,424 dignity kits are in the process of being distributed in the affected areas.
- GBV cases and reports of trafficking have been flagged in the affected areas; protection cluster members have established functioning services in at least 5 of the affected districts. Dissemination of GBV prevention messages in some the districts.
- Network of women's NGOs activated for the purpose of formation sharing.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Safe spaces, high demand of dignity kits, clothes for children.



Shelter

Needs:

- An estimated 18,320 families have been displaced while 75,000 families have been affected.

Response:

- 1,073 NFI sets, 3,439 tarpaulins and 290 blankets distributed across various affected districts.
- Coordination between DDRCs of affected districts, agencies and clusters to address requests to move stocks to affected districts.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Actual damage data not yet available.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:

- Initial estimate of caseload of households in need is 100,000, but information still being verified.

100,000
Households estimated
to be in need

Response:

- IEC materials approved for hygiene promotion, and technical manuals for water system rehabilitation approved for use.
- Coordination teams for response have been formed at the national, regional and district levels.
- Distribution of materials such as hygiene kits, water purifier, soap has begun in all districts. UNICEF has supplies for 10,000 people prepositioned.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Understanding displacement status is required in order to prioritize the response.



Community Engagement Working Group

Response:

- Current efforts are focused on gathering information on communications methods available to and trusted by affected populations and understanding their information needs.
- Data coming in from hotlines, IRA and various other sources being compiled.
- Initial life-saving and life enhancing messages, particularly related to health, sanitation and protection have been disseminated to local radio stations.

Gaps & Constraints:

- At least 29 local radio stations are severely damaged and will require technical support to get back online and begin broadcasting information to the affected population.

General Coordination

The Government of Nepal Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) is leading the response efforts and has activated the cluster system and the Emergency Response Preparedness plan. The Humanitarian Country Team is regularly meeting in support of the government response to fill gaps where needed, and the Resident Coordinator's Office is coordinating. All clusters are meeting regularly; respective Ministries and Departments are leading the clusters nationally, and District line agencies are leading the district level clusters with District Disaster Relief Committees (DDRCs). MoHA has instructed all districts to activate the Initial Rapid Assessment process, and assessments are ongoing in all affected. Results will be available by 18 August 2017.

Background on the crisis

Beginning Friday, 11 August 2017 Nepal has experienced its worst rains in 15 years, resulting in large scale impacts on life, livelihood and infrastructure across 35 of Nepal's 75 districts. This emergency comes at a time when Nepal is already struggling to recover from the 2015 earthquake, with much reconstruction and recovery work still to be done. Five of the current flood affected districts are also earthquake affected districts, while four of the current flood affected districts were affected by large scale flooding in 2014, and have yet to fully recover.

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