

Nepal: Flood 2017

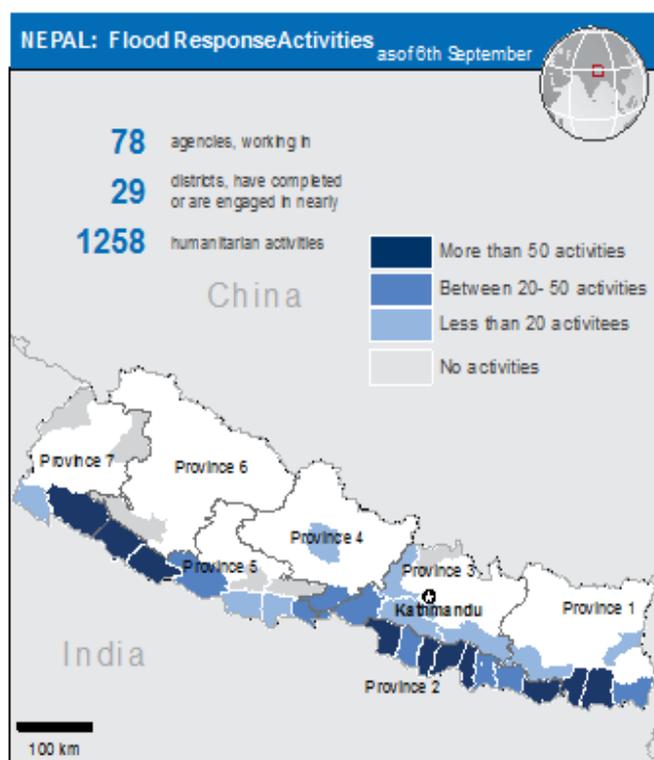
Office of the Resident Coordinator Situation Report No. 7
(as of 7 September 2017)



This report is produced by Office of the Resident Coordinator Nepal in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 31 August to 6 September 2017.

Highlights

- To-date, over 1.1 million flood affected people have benefited from humanitarian assistance.
- Nominations of the candidates in local elections in Province 2 took place on 6 September with elections to take place on 18 September. It is possible that these elections may hamper relief and recovery efforts.
- Light to moderate rain is forecast for the next 24 hours according to the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology.



Situation Overview

43,000

Houses destroyed

192,000

Partially damaged houses

21,000

Families temporarily displaced

160

Dead

29

Missing

45

Injured

**all figures as per MoHA*

In response to the humanitarian needs resulting from the flooding across many parts of Nepal, humanitarian agencies have provided assistance to 1.1 million people across different sectors. Cluster specific detailed assessments (CSDAs) are now underway across all flood-affected districts, however, effective coordination of CSDAs is needed to facilitate a robust appraisal of sectoral needs.

While many displaced families have begun to return to their homes, 20,888 families remain displaced and in 18 sites across five districts there are more than 5,000 people living in temporary settlements.

There are still large unmet humanitarian requirements across all sectors. For example, access to basic and comprehensive reproductive health (RH) services including safe delivery and anti-and post-natal care remains a challenge in flood-affected areas.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has convened a meeting of Cluster lead and co-lead agencies due to take place on 10 September.

Funding

The emergency appeal for the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) is currently 75 per cent funded. The emergency appeal for the International Federation of the Red Cross is 25 per cent funded and faces a shortfall of CHF2.6 million.

Despite recent and generous contributions from the Governments of France and Australia (totaling more than US\$1.75 million) the Joint Response Plan continues to face major funding shortfalls.

The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) submitted a funding request to the UN's Central Emergency Response Fund budgeted at US\$4.8 million on Thursday 31 August which is currently being appraised by colleagues in New York.

Grand Bargain

Against the ten commitments outlined in the [Grand Bargain](#) four have been identified as operational priorities to take forwards in the Asia-Pacific region. In the context of the ongoing flood response the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator can provide the following updates:

1. *Increase the use and coordination of cash-based programs:* Efforts to strengthen coordination continue with the role of humanitarian agencies proving highly important. Welthungerhilfe and Danish Church Aid were appointed as chair and co-chair respectively of the Cash Coordination Group (CCG) on 1st September. The CCG is continuing to liaise with the Social Protection Task Team to facilitate effective collaboration between different actors that are providing cash-based assistance.
2. *Impartial and timely joint needs assessments:* The Initial Rapid Assessment (IRA) that was undertaken by the Government of Nepal, supported by the NRCS, provided responding agencies with important information on the impact of the floods and humanitarian needs. More detailed assessments are now underway, led by Clusters, and there is a need to bolster coordination and to ensure the methodological integrity of follow-on assessments post the IRA.
3. *Participation revolution:* Via the Community Engagement Working Group (CEWG) humanitarian actors have developed a short information and communication needs assessment questionnaire so agencies can collect information from communities, where possible, during distributions, via existing hotlines and through social mobilization campaigns. In addition, the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator aims to scale-up the Common Feedback Project in flood affected districts.
4. *Local and national responders:* Local actors, including the NRCS and small-scale civil society organizations, have provided vital assistance across the Terai. Looking forwards, more needs to be done to enhance collaboration between the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and national organizations.

Humanitarian Response



Early Recovery

Needs:

- Over 820,000 farm animals (cows, goats, chickens etc.) were killed by recent floods. Such losses will likely have a negative impact on Nepal's macroeconomy as livestock contributes 13% of the country's GDP. Women are also likely to bear the brunt of such losses as they comprise the bulk of agricultural workers especially in small livestock rearing. Support to enable affected communities resume livelihood activities, including small business/enterprise recovery, and cash assistance to re-stock lost livestock and agriculture inputs, is required.
- Urgent and safe disposal of dead livestock is needed.
- Paddy and vegetable cultivation have been badly impacted by flooding, and major damage is reportedly caused to fishponds.
- Specific Village Development Committees in the Terai remain inaccessible due to damaged roads and bridges. Rapid restoration of essential community infrastructure such as access roads, small bridges and culverts to facilitate delivery of humanitarian and recovery assistance is needed.

Response:

- The Ministry of Livestock Development (MOLD) has released NPR5 million to 21 districts for disposal of carcasses, and the procurement of feed, disinfectants and temporary shelter for cattle.
- On 30 August MOLD organized a 'Livestock Sector Relief and Rehabilitation Coordination Meeting' and appealed to development partners for support.

Gaps & Constraints

- The Ministry of Agricultural Development and MOLD reports a shortage of funding for early recovery activities.

**Education****Needs:**

- Education Cluster has identified the urgent need for debris clearance in classrooms and school compounds.
- Improved coordination with the WASH Cluster is still needed in order to repair WASH facilities in schools.
- Schools still face shortage of learning materials including of text books and stationery.
- As per the Department of Education (DoE) report (28 August 2017,) 1,615 schools in 18 flood-affected districts have been impacted by the disaster.

Response:

- The DoE has requested that relevant actors in the education sector at the district level, submit information regarding the number of affected students per grade and whether there is a need to construct Temporary Learning Centers (TLCs) in affected areas.
- Distribution of supplies from Cluster stockpiles is ongoing.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Accuracy of data is still a big challenge, there are huge variations in data from DoE and district Clusters, for example. The DoE also faces challenges in managing and analyzing information received from districts and Cluster partners.
- A coordinated effort is required between Education and WASH clusters, both at the national and sub-national levels to prioritise school WASH repair and maintenance.

**Food Aid****Needs:****Response:**

- A consortium of INGOs has distributed food baskets to 11,600 households: 5,000 in Rautahat; 5,000 in Saptari; and 1,600 in Mahottari districts. Each food basket contains 30 Kg rice, 5 Kg pulses, 2 Kg sugar, and 2 Kg salts.
- WFP continues to provide food aid sufficient for 15 days across four flood-affected districts.



Agriculture

Needs:

The Ministry of Agricultural Development (MOAD) estimates the floods have caused losses NPR 5.85 billion (US\$57 million) in the agricultural sector across 30 districts.

- MOLD estimates direct livestock losses at NPR1.25 billion and indirect losses at NPR10 billion.
- MOAD has developed an early recovery programme, budgeted at NPR1.25 billion, which is focused on restoring fisheries, repairing storage facilities, providing fruit and vegetable seedlings, private nursery rehabilitation, and land reclamation.



Health

Needs:

- Access to basic and comprehensive reproductive health services including safe delivery and anti-and post-natal care remains a challenge in flood affected areas.
- Health centres in affected areas report that gynecological and psychological related issues as well as skin infections are common health problems.
- Support required to rebuild flood-damaged health facilities.
- International medical kits, including those for treatment of diarrhea and reproductive health services, need to be replenished. There are specific shortages of Metronidazole Tab 200mg, Ofloxacin Tab 200mg, Cefixime Tab 200mg, Oral Rehydration Salts, Doxycycline 100mg, Tinidazole 250mg, Chlorine tab (33mg), Domperidon Tab 10mg, IV Set, Povidine Iodine Ointment tube, Omeprazole Cap 20mg, Cetrizine Tab 10mg, Clotrimazole Cream (1%).

Response:

- As of 7 September, nine reproductive health camps have been established; six in Sarlahi and three in Sunsari. A further 30 comprehensive reproductive health (RH) camps are planned in Rautahat, Sarlahi, Mahottari, Saptari and Sunsari in coordination with the Dept. of Health Services.
- WHO has provided one Inter Agency Emergency Health Kit to Rautahat district, eight Inter-Agency Diarrhoeal Diseases Kits, 17 Rapid Response Team Personal Deployment Kits, 550,000 chlorine tablets and 10 community water filters.
- Medication worth NRP2 million has been provided the Government of Nepal for emergency response operations.
- The Health Cluster has mobilized 200 first aid volunteers in flood-affected districts; 800 first aid volunteers are on standby in the affected districts. Ambulance services are functioning in more than 15 districts with accessible roads.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Insufficient essential medicines and nutritious food available to meet the needs of affected women.
- Gynecologists and ultrasound sonography operators are in high demand in RH camps.



Logistics

Needs:

- Four rural VDCs are still inaccessible via rural roads for all vehicle types as of 4 September 2017.
- All major highways reopened.

Response:

- Ten access constraint maps have been produced and disseminated. See <http://www.logcluster.org/countries/NPL>

Gaps & Constraints:

- There are no gaps in transport, storage and fuel supply.

**Nutrition****Needs:**

- Care givers / parents of 80,000 children (aged 0-23 months) requires counselling regarding exclusive breast feeding.
- Care givers / parents of 200,000 children (aged 6-23 months) require counselling on timely and appropriate complementary feeding with breast feeding;
- Care givers / parents of 50,000 children (aged 6-59 months) with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) requires targeted supplementary feeding service and 67,000 children aged 6-23 months and pregnant and lactating women required blanket supplementary feeding services;
- 15,000 children aged 6-59 months with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) require therapeutic feeding service;
- Micro-nutrient for children and women as; (i) 800,000 children age 6-59 months require micronutrient powders and Vitamin A inputs, (ii) 600,000 children (aged 12-59) months require de-worming services, (iii) 200,000 pregnant and lactating women require iron and folic acid

Response:

- Nutrition Cluster members conducted a nutritional assessment of 10,257 children aged 6-59 months among them 620 (6.0 per cent among the screened) children have been identified with SAM and 1,751 (17.1 per cent among the screened) have been identified with MAM.
- Distribution of 200 MT of fortified super flour to 66,700 children, pregnant and lactating women (total target of children aged 6-23 months: 35,800, pregnant and lactating women: 30,900) in 13 flood affected districts has been completed.
- Treatment of children aged 6-59 months with SAM in flood affected districts through existing outpatient therapeutic centers (OTCs) and Nutrition Rehabilitation Homes (NRH) is ongoing. So far, around 2,400 children are under treatment of SAM.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Supplementary food for management of MAM and for pregnant and lactating women.
- Major shortfall of therapeutic food to treat 1,500 SAM cases.
- Micro-nutrient Powder – the Cluster lacks supplies to reach all children aged 6-23 months in flood affected districts.

Funding gap

- To-date the Cluster has received US\$240,000 (from the French Government) out a required US\$8 million.

**Protection****Needs:**

- Protection services for vulnerable people (including pregnant and lactating women), including safe houses, female friendly spaces and child friendly spaces.
- Prevention of and response to Gender Based Violence (GBV) and trafficking has been identified as concerns in flood affected districts.
- Psychosocial support for children, women and vulnerable people
- Prevention of GBV and trafficking. Both are being flagged in the affected districts; some reports are unconfirmed. The affected area has high rates of trafficking during normal times.
- Information, education and communication materials.

Response:

- 2,111 individuals (968 children, 860 women and 283 men) have been provided with psychosocial support services.

- 2,956 women provided with dignity kits. Seven female friendly spaces (FFS) are in operation in Kailali, Morang, Sunsari, Siraha, Dang and Bardiya catering the needs of 450 pregnant, lactating women and adolescent girls.
- Three child friendly spaces (CFS) are in operation benefitting 326 children (155 girls and 171 boys).
- Cluster partners have distributed 1,814 dignity kits in 11 districts

Gaps & Constraints:

- Insufficient dignity kits and nutritious food to meet the caseload of affected pregnant and lactating women.
- Shelter for vulnerable, pregnant and lactating women in affected districts.
- Loss of civil documentation (e.g. birth registration, citizen- ship documents, land certificates etc.) poses an obstacle, to access essential services and compensation
- To-date the Protection Cluster has received US\$60,000 against a total of US\$900,000 needed.



Shelter

Needs:

- There remains a need to provide non-food item (NFI) kits containing essential domestic items plus shelter kits to those households whose homes were destroyed or damaged by floods.
- 60 per cent of households in need of shelter and NFI support have not yet received assistance.

Response:

- As of 7 September, the Government has distributed: 60,202 tarpaulins, 8,129 Mattress, 9,812 Blankets, 21,060 mosquito nets, 39,933 kitchen sets and 30,423 items of clothing.
- As of 7 September, almost 40,000 households have received shelter / NFI support – this does not include support provided by private sector organizations.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Information remains patchy including about relief distributions from Government of Nepal stockpiles / warehouses.
- There has been a marked deceleration of response activities in Province 2, which might be linked to the implementation of the election code of conduct.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:

- Need for rehabilitation for water supply systems such as tube-wells, dug-well setc.
- Continuation of hygiene promotion in highly affected areas is required.

Response:

- Nearly 313,000 people have benefitted from support provided by the WASH Cluster.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Effective coordination between Cluster partners is needed in order for sound implementation of cluster specific detailed assessments. Cluster Specific Detailed Assessment initiation at district level is expected, good planning is required to ensure timely and systematic information collection.
- A lack of funds continues to inhibit the ability of the Cluster to respond.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Needs:

- There is need of shelter/NFIs support, WASH support, health support and psycho-social support in the affected locations.

Response:

- The CCCM cluster conducted site level assessment from August 21- 29, 2017 in six districts; Morang, Sunsari, Saptari, Siraha, Banke and Bardiya. There are 18 sites in five districts with more than 5000 people living in temporary settlement with no active sites found in Siraha.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Resources constraint

Coordination

Cash Coordination

A new chair and co-chair of the Cash Coordination Group (CCG) has been appointed. The CCG continues to maintain an overview of the ongoing cash response by relief actors. In addition, the CCG has also developed “top line” cash transfer guidelines for Clusters.

Inter-Cluster Gender in Humanitarian Action Task Team

Under the UN Country Team’s Gender Theme Group, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MoWCSW), the Inter-Cluster Gender in Humanitarian Action Task Team (GiHA TT) has developed a set of key documents to guide gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) responsive humanitarian programming for the flood response and recovery.

The GiHA TT has updated the Nepal GESI Profile [<http://www.un.org.np/headlines/nepal-gender-equality-and-social-inclusion-gesi-profile-humanitarian-action-and-disaster-r>] which provides an overview of the GESI context in Nepal to guide humanitarian programming in response to the floods. As a practical guide to support the use of the GESI profile, the GiHA TT has developed the GESI Guidelines for identifying and prioritizing vulnerable and marginalized populations for humanitarian response, recovery, preparedness and disaster risk reduction [<http://www.un.org.np/headlines/gender-equality-and-social-inclusion-guideline-identifying-and-prioritising-vulnerable-and>] including focus on women and girls, LGBTI, persons with disabilities, children, senior citizens, and ethnic/caste based minorities.

Finally the GiHA TT has prepared the Gender Equality Update No. 12 [<http://www.un.org.np/headlines/gender-equality-update-no-12-flood-response>] which provides a summary of updates on GESI in the context of the Nepal flood humanitarian response in 2017 including key messages, response efforts, needs, gaps and emerging risks. Moreover, a monitoring mission was carried out by Sankalpa in the districts of Saptari and Siraha between 31 August – 3 September. The monitoring report emphasizes the specific needs of postpartum mothers, the increased risk of young and adolescent girls dropping out of school and overall concerns regarding women and girls’ sanitation and hygiene.

Community Engagement

A thorough understanding of the information and communication needs of flood affected people, particularly those in temporary shelters, is still unknown. This includes what sources of information communities have access to, and trust, to receive important life-saving and life enhancing messages.

The Community Engagement Working Group (CEWG) is exploring more systematic methods of collecting this information, in order to inform communications activities that will ensure affected people receive the information they need to stay safe and begin their recovery. Currently a short information and communication needs assessment questionnaire is being used by CEWG partners to collect information from communities, where possible, during distributions, via existing hotlines and through social mobilization campaigns. Through this arrangement some feedback from affected communities is also coming to the Working Group; however, it only reflects feedback from existing targeted beneficiaries of partners.

Messages on safety during flood and landslides are being aired through 162 radio stations across 22 affected districts. These messages are being broadcast in Nepali as well as local languages of the affected areas. As a preparedness measure several community radio stations had been trained on DRR and emergency response programming. 16 radio stations across the affected districts are producing and airing content on floods and landslides. Out of the 16, twelve radio stations are producing exclusive content on issues affecting women and children. Ten radio stations are also collecting feedback from affected communities. Some of the emerging priority needs among affected communities were related to relief and shelter, water, food, health and education. Community mobilization activities were initiated in Banke and Bardiya through Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs). Key health and hygiene messages are also being disseminated in Banke, Saptari, Sunari and Morang districts using loudhailers.

A mechanism for systematically collecting feedback from affected communities to inform the response is yet to be agreed on and funded.

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: Panchthar, Illam, Jhapa, Morang, Sunsari, Saptari, Siraha, Dhanusa, Mahottari, Sarlahi, Rautahat, Bar, Parsa, Chitwan, Makwanpur, Lalitpur, Sindhuli, Nawalparasi, Palpa, Kapilbastu, Dang, Banke, Bardiya, Kailali, Surkhet, Salyan and Kalikot. 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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