##Press Release##

**QRCS, QFFD provide emergency shelter aid for Nepal flood victims**

**August #, 2019 — Doha:** Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS) has immediately responded to the devastating flash floods in southeastern and central Nepal. With funding from Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD), QRCS launched a humanitarian response plan to alleviate the impact of the floods and landslides.

As the disaster occurred, QRCS activated its Disaster Information Management Center (DIMC) to coordinate with other partners. A field team from QRCS’s representation mission in Nepal took part in the assessment done by Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS), government operations teams, and National Crisis Management Committee (NCNC).

According to the assessment reports, the most affected areas were Mahottari and Rautahat Districts.

QFFD-funded emergency shelter solutions and hygiene kits were distributed by QRCS and NRCS to 2,000 affected families (10,000 persons). Each parcel contained tarpaulins, ropes, blanket, family-size hygiene kit, and mosquito nets to reduce infection risks.

Over four consecutive days, the country saw a spell of heavy rain, which caused severe monsoon floods, as usual every
summer in southeastern Asia. The severity of floods varies from year to year and from country to country, depending on the climatic conditions.

The landslides blocked main roads and destroyed bridges in Kathmandu and other cities. Many villages and homes were submerged due to the overflowing of four rivers. A recent official situation review showed 108 dead, 29 missing, and dozens injured, as well as 92,560 affected families, 20,352 displaced families, 20,273 totally destroyed homes, 41,044 partially damaged homes, and dozens of damaged schools and public facilities.

For the time being, response priorities include emergency shelter and nonfood items (NFIs). Other interventions will be developed during the 2nd phase of early recovery.

QFFD has already supported previous humanitarian assistance interventions in Nepal. In 2017, it was one of the first to proceed with funding emergency response intervention to reduce the damage caused by natural disasters in the country.

QRCS has been operating in Nepal since 2013, with many water, sanitation, health, and food security projects. In April 2015, a representation mission was established to respond to a massive earthquake, by deploying the mobile medical clinic, installing the Kit 5 water system, distributing food and nonfood aid, and providing power generators for public facilities. The
mission also contributed to the response to the 2016, 2017, and 2018 floods.

Over the period 2013-2019, QRCS implemented $3 million worth of projects, benefiting up to 1.5 million persons.

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About Qatar Red Crescent (QRCS)
Established in 1978, Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS) is a humanitarian volunteering organization that aims to assist and empower vulnerable individuals and communities without partiality or discrimination.

QRCS is a member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, which consists of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and 191 National Societies. QRCS is also a member of several GCC, Arab, and Islamic organizations, such as the Islamic Committee of International Crescent and the Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Organization (ARCO). In this legally recognized capacity, QRCS has access to disaster and conflict zones, thus serving as an auxiliary to the State of Qatar in its humanitarian efforts — a role that distinguishes it from other local charities and NGOs.

QRCS operates both locally and internationally and has ongoing international relief and development projects in a number of countries throughout the Middle East, Asia, Africa, and Europe. QRCS's humanitarian actions include providing support in disaster preparedness, disaster response, risk reduction, and disaster recovery. To mitigate the impact of disasters and improve the livelihoods of affected populations, QRCS provides medical services, healthcare, and social development to local communities. It is also active at the humanitarian advocacy front. With the help of a vast network of trained, committed staff and volunteers, QRCS aspires to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity.

QRCS works under the umbrella of the seven international humanitarian principles: Humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity, and universality.