**Highlights**

- The onset of the monsoon season and subsequent heavy rainfall that began on 11 July 2019 has resulted in flooding and landslides in several parts of the country, particularly in Provinces 1 and 2.
- The highly affected districts include Sunsari, Morang, Udayapur in Province 1 and Siraha, Sarlahi, Rautahat and Mahottari in Province 2.
- The Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) has confirmed that 117 people have died, including 51 children (14 girls and 37 boys); 38 people are missing while 80 have been injured. Over 410,000 people are affected, of which an estimated 170,000 are children.
- In the majority of flood affected areas, water logging is an issue due to the lack of proper drainage.
- The majority of the displaced population took shelter in community buildings, schools, with relatives and along the river dams. The temporarily displaced population is gradually returning home and markets are gradually becoming functional.
- Preliminary findings from the Initial Rapid Assessments (IRA) suggests that the immediate needs of affected population are: i) safe drinking water and sanitation, ii) temporary shelters, iii) food, iv) medicines including Oral Rehydration Salts (ORS) and medicines for water-borne diseases and v) clothes.
- UNICEF, in close collaboration with government, has dispatched over US$ 177,000 worth of pre-positioned contingency supplies for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Health and Child Protection to respond to the emergency. Supplies distributed so far include 395,500 aqua tabs, 1,800 tarpaulin sheets, 1,450 blankets, 3,559 hygiene kits, 2,826 bed nets and four Interagency Emergency Health Kits (IEHK). One IEHK serves 10,000 people for three months.
- The monsoon season will last for another two months.

**Date: 2 August 2019**

117
# of people who died due to floods and landslides

51 (14 girls and 37 boys)
# of children who died due to floods and landslides

38
# of people missing

80
# of people injured

19,974*
# of houses completely damaged

41,343*
# of houses partially damaged

413,572**
people affected

169,565**
# of children affected

*preliminary finding from Initial Rapid Assessment (IRA) as reflected in MoHA’s website

** UNICEF estimate based on Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS), not MOHA

Source: Ministry of Home Affairs
http://drrportal.gov.np/
Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Initial rapid assessments have been completed in Rautahat, Sarlahi, Siraha, Mahottari, Saptari and Dhanusha districts. Due to submerged tube wells and other water sources, safe drinking water in affected areas is a major concern. The immediate needs include; i) Safe drinking water and sanitation, ii) temporary shelters, iii) food, iv) medicines including Oral Rehydration Salts (ORS) and medicines for water-borne diseases and v) clothes.

An initial estimate suggests that approximately 50,000 water points have been contaminated while more than 43,000 latrines are not usable. Cold chain facilities have been damaged in the Mahottari District and a vaccine distribution centre in Rautahat District has also been affected. So far, 821 schools in Province 1, 2 and 3 have been affected. Initial damage reports indicate the need for debris clearance and the provision of new educational materials, including those for early childhood development. Some schools will require the repair and restoration of WASH facilities as well as damage and collapse of school boundary walls. The flood has impacted the nutrition situation of children under the age of five. Pregnant and lactating women are also impacted due to the damage to household food supplies and lack of proper infant and young child feeding practices in the affected areas. Additionally, the absence of dedicated protection offices at the provincial, district and local levels has caused challenges to the protection response coordination in the affected districts. Based on the preliminary findings, there is an increasing need for the establishment of child friendly spaces (including psychosocial support) in the affected Municipalities to address the vulnerability of the affected children. UNICEF is providing its support in close collaboration and with full endorsement of federal, provincial and local government.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

The Government of Nepal convened the first meeting of Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Executive Committee on 13 July and activated the cluster system for relief, response and early recovery. Given the Federal structure, humanitarian coordination meetings are being held at Federal, Province and district level for timely and effective response. All relief, response and early recovery actions are to be carried out through One-Door-Policy by Local Disaster Management Committee (LDMC) in close collaboration with the Provincial Government and District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC).

As per the Government of Nepal’s National Disaster Response Framework, the clusters are led by the government with United Nations agencies as co-lead. UNICEF co-leads the following clusters; i) Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH); ii) Nutrition, iii) Protection (with UNFPA) and iv) Education (with Save the Children). UNICEF is also a member of other clusters: Health cluster and Cash Coordination Group (CCG). UNICEF is taking part in coordination meetings at all levels while meetings at federal, provincial, district and municipality levels are ongoing.
Summary Analysis of Programme Response

WASH

Cluster response:

- The federal government has provided its assistance by sending bleaching powder for drinking water and tube well disinfection in affected districts.
- Two mobile water quality testing vans have been mobilized to support Siraha and Saptari districts. These can support other neighbouring affected districts as needed.
- A total of 405 hygiene promoters are being mobilized in Rautahat, Siraha, Saptari and Sarlahi for hygiene promotion. Similar arrangements are in place for remaining 2 districts.
- Two water ambulances have reached Rautahat and Siraha Districts in coordination with the Department of Water Supply and Sewerage Management and have started distributing safe water to the affected population.
- WASH Cluster in Rautahat District will conduct detailed damage assessment in all of its palikas. UNICEF is supporting assessments in four of them.

UNICEF response:

- UNICEF is responding in six districts: Rautahat, Sarlahi, Dhanusha, Mahottari, Siraha and Saptari - through WASH interventions such as distribution of supplies, hygiene promotion and cluster coordination.
- UNICEF has deployed a WASH Coordinator to support Province 2 and one WASH Officer each in Rautahat and Siraha Districts for providing technical and coordination support.
- A total of 81 WASH volunteers have been mobilized in six districts for disseminating messages on sanitation and hygiene.
- UNICEF has supported 7100 people/families through distribution of 395,500 aqua tabs, 3,834 hygiene kits, 3,834 water containers/buckets and 3,834 mugs.
- Programme Cooperation Agreement (PCA) partners have been activated to support local governments to carry response and recovery works that includes hygiene promotion for outbreak prevention, water source recovery and disinfection and sanitation recovery works.

Gaps and Constraints:

Based on the Initial Damage Assessment, approximately 50,000 water points have been contaminated while more than 43,000 latrines are not usable. Additional technical capacity and resources is needed for implementing WASH interventions - especially recovery and disinfection of water points and sanitation and hygiene facilities. As per the emergency response plan, current cluster capacity is only for 37,000 families (200,000 population). Additional resources will be required to respond to the current damage and unforeseen period of monsoon season with a focus on recovery of water points and disinfection, repairing sanitation facilities, and promoting hygiene education for outbreak prevention and control.

Nutrition

Cluster response:

- The central medical store in Pathlaiya has dispatched 100 cartons of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) to The Siraha District. The Nutrition Cluster is conducting rapid nutrition assessment in eight districts: Bara, Dhanusha, Mahottari, Parsa, Rautahat, Sarlahi, Saptari and Siraha. As of 29 July 2019, Siraha assessed a total of 5,310 flood-affected children aged 6-59 months using a mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) tape. Out of them, 192 children (4.53 per cent) were found to be severely malnourished and 882 children (16.61 per cent) were moderately malnourished.

UNICEF response:

- UNICEF, as a co-cluster lead, is monitoring the situation and distributing RUTF based on the demand received from the flood-affected districts. UNICEF is ensuring all 157 OTCs remain functional with the availability of RUTF and anthropometric equipment including nutrition counselling to the affected women and children.
- The district coordinators and Multi-Sector Nutrition Plan (MSNP) volunteers are supporting all eight districts in Province 2 with response planning.
- These nutrition commodities are prepositioned by UNICEF and ready for release upon the government request: 3,000 cartons of RUTF, 250 cartons of F100, 200 cartons of ReSoMal, 200 cartons of F75, 150 sets of height boards, 300 Salter’ scales, 40,000 middle-upper-arm-circumference (MUAC) tapes, 601 cartons (144,240 packs) of micronutrient powder, 100,000 capsules of Vitamin A capsules, 100,000 de-worming tablets and 20,000,000 iron-folic acid tablets (200,000 stripes of 10x10 tablets).
- 157 OTP sites are providing nutrition counselling.
• The treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) has been ongoing through 157 OTCs and three Nutrition Rehabilitation Homes (NRHs). 2,248 children with Severe Acute Malnutrition are undergoing treatment in the relevant OTCs.

Gaps and Constraints:

The entire picture of flood impact on nutrition has not yet been completely visible since nutrition assessment through the cluster partner is still ongoing. According to the initial data of screening, the prevalence of SAM is almost stagnant around 3.5 percent till the date. However, the caseload in the OTP site with the screening of SAM cases increased from 136 cases to 178 within three days (21-24 July). This highlights the need to accelerate complementary measures such as providing nutrition counselling together with the messages on nutrition to mothers and community members. Currently most Nutrition related activities are being supported by regular programme resources. However, going forward, these resources will need to be replenished for additional humanitarian relief support.

Protection

Cluster response:

• Four cluster meetings at the federal level conducted to update on the needs, response and gaps
• One provincial level protection cluster meeting and protection coordination meetings on going in Bara, Rautahat, Sarlahi, Mohattari, Siraha, Saptari and Udayapur to discuss on the needs, response and gaps
• One female-friendly space (FFS) has been established in Sunsari district.
• 3,685 dignity kits and 1,475 kishori kits (for adolescent girls) have been distributed in Sarlahi, Siraha,Sunsari, Rautahat, Saptari, Dhanusha and Udayapur districts
• 575 children kits were distributed in Saptari
• Psychosocial support including psychological first aid is ongoing in Udayapur, Saptari and Siraha
• The tracing and reunification of 22 people (including nine children) is still ongoing through the activation of restoring family links (RFL) services.
• 5,800 tarpaulins distributed in Siraha, Dhanusha, Mahottori, Sarlahi, Morang, Sunsari, and Udayapur and 1,800 blankets distributed in Rautahat and Dhanusha targeting vulnerable people including pregnant and lactating women as well as children.
• Cases related to attempted rape were reported and further investigation is ongoing. The police has reinforced a surveillance system to prevent and respond to gender-based violence (GBV) including trafficking.
• Messages related to protection issues are being aired in the affected and potentially to be affected areas in local languages (Nepali, Maithali, Bhojpuri and Awadhi) through 52 local FM radio stations. The messages will be aired for a month.

UNICEF response:

• Messages related to protection issues are being aired in the affected and vulnerable areas in local languages (Nepali, Maithali, Bhojpuri and Awadhi) through 52 local FM radio stations. The messages will be aired for a month.
• Coordination and information management support is being provided at the federal, provincial and local levels on behalf of the protection cluster.

Gaps and Constraints

Following the new federal structure in Nepal, there are no dedicated offices at the provincial, district and local levels to coordinate protection cluster interventions. Hence, it has been challenging to coordinate protection response in the flood/landslide districts. A letter from the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens to the Ministry of Home Affairs to request the establishment of protection desks in the affected district is still pending. Regular follow up with the Ministry ongoing. Protection desks in some districts have been established in coordination with DDMC as a temporary solution.
• There still remains a need for dignity kits. Coordination with cluster member organizations is ongoing to address the need.

Education

Cluster response:

• The first Provincial 2 level education cluster meeting was held on 29 July, led by the Provincial Education Directorate (PED), with representation of provincial government, EDCUs, NGOs, INGOs and UN.
• All eight districts have conducted District Education Cluster meeting under the leadership of the respective EDCUs.
• A detailed needs assessment of damage to schools was conducted and the report is pending for the further analysis.
• Three schools are still being used for shelter (one in Saptari, Saptakoshi Rural Municipality and two in Siraha, Kalyanpur Municipality).
• PED is coordinating with the Centre for Education and Human Resource Development (CEHRD) and Provincial Social Development Ministry to access the emergency funds to be used for the response. PED has also requested to map out the cluster support for the affected schools, in coordination with the Local Palikas and EDCU.
• The cluster members have prepositioned capacity to reach 40,000 children with School kits, Early Childhood Development (ECD) kits and student/individual kits (adolescent and child).

UNICEF response:
• UNICEF successfully advocated for the organization of the first ever provincial and district level education cluster meetings.
• UNICEF currently has the capacity to reach 16,865 children through school kits, adolescent kits, child kits and ECD

Gaps and Constraints
• There is some discrepancy between IRA and detailed school assessment. PED has instructed all the EDCUs to verify the information and submit the actual data by 6 August.
• The MoE has allocated Education in Emergency funds in seven Provinces (NPR. 10 million each). More clarification is needed on how these funds can be accessed by schools/ Local Palikas for the response.
• It is likely that there is a need for more resources for debris clearance in the affected schools, repair maintenance of gender-sensitive WASH facilities (handwashing, drinking water and separate latrines) and education supplies (school in a box, ECD kits, recreational materials).

Health
Cluster response:
• The government has deployed three medical teams with additional medicine and medical equipment to make sure that epidemics do not hit the affected areas.
• Snakebite cases have increased in the Province 2. As of 25 July, 635 (29 poisonous + 416 non-poisonous) cases of snakebites were reported and seven people died.
• No outbreak has occurred yet and that there is no shortage of medicines. Additional anti-snake venom (ASV) have been sent to Province 2 hospitals. The cluster also decided to identify DDMC reports as the only official source of information from the field. Also, the importance and need of WASH and Health clusters to work together to prevent an outbreak has been highlighted.
• Rapid Response Teams (RRT) have been mobilized in all districts of Province 2. Action has been taken to restore the vaccine supply in the Mahottari District.
• The damaged cold chain equipment and vaccines in Mahottari district were repaired and replaced, and cold chain store is now fully functional.

UNICEF response:
• UNICEF delivered four basic health kits / Interagency Emergency Health Kits (IEHK) to Rautahat, Siraha, Sarlahi and Mahottari Districts. Each kit serves the primary health care needs of 10,000 people for three months.
• 3,076 long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLIN) and 300 newborn intensive kits have been distributed to affected population.
• UNICEF has deployed one Health Officer to Siraha and Mahottari Districts and Bardibas, respectively, for coordination and technical support.

Gaps and Constraints
Limited supplies (bed net, newborn incentive kits) have been prepositioned and additional resources are required for the replenishment of supplies.

Communication for Development (C4D)
• Five Public Service Awareness (PSA) messages on child protection and five on health, WASH and nutrition have been developed and recorded in Nepali, Maithili and Bhojpuri. The PSAs are being aired for a month through 50 radio stations in Provinces 1 and 2. In addition, these PSAs are also being disseminated through all major radio networks including Ujjyalo Network, Association of Community Radio Broadcasters Nepal (ACORAB) and the national broadcaster Radio Nepal.
• As a part of accountability to the affected populations, Community Engagement Working Group (CEWG) chaired by UNICEF, in collaboration with the Resident Coordinator’s office, conducted the first round of Key Immediate Needs (KIN) survey through Interactive Voice Recorder (IVR) with the 3,229 populations. The preliminary results show that 67 per cent of the community was affected by the floods of which 66 per cent felt that the floods were worse than the last year. Fifty-nine per cent had to leave their homes. Food stood out as the priority need followed by support for safe drinking water and access to latrines, shelter, health and medicines.
Media and Communication

- Social media messages on keeping children safe during and in the aftermath of the disaster as well as voices of children and families affected by the floods and impacts of UNICEF response have been posted daily since 12 July 2019.
- Support has been provided for a media interview of the UNICEF Regional Adviser for Emergency following the issuance of UNICEF press release on the impact of floods in Nepal, Bangladesh and India. Other media interviews have been supported, including with CNN.

Emergency Cash Transfer

- A market assessment is done by WFP and most of the markets are functioning and cash-based intervention particularly for early recovery is recommended. UNICEF is coordinating with the government and the Cash Coordination Group (CCG) on possible cash interventions.

Funding

Given that the monsoon season will last for two more months and might cause further flooding and landslides, UNICEF will require US$ 630,443. The anticipated funding will be used for WASH response and replenishment of prepositioning of stocks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Requirements (US $)</th>
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<td>WASH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Total</td>
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</tbody>
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UNICEF Spokespersons

Who to contact for further information:

Elke Wisch
Representative
UNICEF Nepal
Tel: +977 9801021469
Email: ewisch@unicef.org

Tania Dhakhwa
Chief of Communication
UNICEF Nepal
Tel: +97714217602; ext. 2070
E-mail: tdhakhwa@unicef.org