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Information bulletin

Nepal: Monsoon floods and landslides

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Glide n° FL-2019-000083-NPL	Date of issue: 17 July 2019
Date of disaster: Emerging	Point of contact: Mona Aryal, Director of Disaster Management, Nepal Red Cross Society
Operation start date: -	Expected timeframe: -
Category of disaster: Yellow	
Host National Society: Nepal Red Cross Society	
Number of people affected: 384,950	Number of people to be assisted: TBD
N° of National Societies currently involved in the operation (if available and relevant): -	
N° of other partner organizations involved in the operation (if available and relevant): -	

This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS), with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is assessing the evolution of the current monsoon rainfalls and its impacts during the next days.

The situation

The incessant rainfall in different parts of the country since 11 July 2019 have triggered flooding and landslides in the south-eastern districts of Nepal particularly in Province 1 and Province 2. Out of 31 affected districts, the worst affected districts are Mahottari, Dhanusa, Rautahat, Sarlahi and Siraha. About 76,990 families (384,950 people) have been affected since last week. According to the situation report from the Nepal Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), 78 people have lost their lives, 22 people injured and another 22 are still missing. In ministry's daily situation report, Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) was informed that 8,798 families across 31 districts have been displaced by the current floods and landslides. Some 18,694 houses are either partially damaged or fully destroyed. In all affected districts, there are crucial needs for tarpaulins and food items. In addition, there is a high risk of



A member of Tri-Chandra College Youth Circle dispatching relief materials in Kathmandu district. (**Photo: NRCS**)

waterborne diseases outbreak, as floods have submerged their homes and destroyed sewerage systems. NRCS is deploying 374 Red Cross volunteers on the ground for immediate response and are working non-stop together with local authorities to support their communities be safe and prepared for the worsening floods.

The floods and landslides have damaged major infrastructures such as electricity towers, roads connecting district headquarters to the affected municipalities; bridges; culverts; local markets; transport vehicles. The damages extend to livestock well as livestock; crops and daily consumables.

As per the weather forecast of Nepal government, there is a chance of normal to heavy rainfall for the next three days in many places of the western part of the country, including the 31 flood affected districts. According to the Metrological Forecasting Division (MFD) of Nepal Government, the rainfall will continue for some more days and the water level in the rivers will be steady and will not exceed the danger level.

Following the floods and landslides, NRCS district chapters volunteers are assisting the local authority to conduct rapid assessments and provide relief services to the affected people. However, their access to the affected areas has been restricted due to the inundation of entire villages and blocked roads. Government security personnel (Nepal army, Armed Police Force and Nepal police) and NRCS volunteers have evacuated affected families from high-risk areas to shelters in the schools and public places. Some families are still living in open places. In addition, NRCS sub-chapters' volunteers are actively involved in disseminating the flood and landslide alert, which helped the communities to evacuate on time in affected districts.

Disaster situation (as of 16 July 2019)	
No. of affected districts	31
No. of dead people	78
No. of missing people	22
No. of injured people	22
No. of affected families	76,990
No. of displaced families	8,798
No. of houses completely destroyed	5,922
No. of houses partially damaged	12,772
28 affected districts: Lalitpur, Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, Jhapa, Morang, Sunsari, Saptari, Dang, Dhanusha, Siraha, Sarlai, Bara, Parsa, Bhojpur, Udayapur, Rautahat, Mahottari, Kavre, Makwanpur, Dhading, Ramechhap, Khotang, Dolpa, Sindhuli, Panchthar, Dholakha, Illam, Okhaldunga, Palpa, Kapilabastu and Dhankuta	

The Government of Nepal has mobilized security forces including Nepal Army, Nepal Police and Armed Police Force for search and rescue efforts as well as to evacuate people from high-risk areas. Thousands of people have been rescued to date and the local government has been providing relief assistance together with other humanitarian agencies. The National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC)/ MoHA has issued flood situation report. On 14 July 2019, during the Cabinet meeting, the government appreciated the support from different actors including from humanitarian organizations and asked them to prioritize search and rescue, treatment of injured, provision of food items and emergency shelter in the affected areas. The government plans to conduct an Integrated Need Assessment to respond to gaps.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

NRCS has been coordinating all relief efforts from its' Emergency Operation Center (EOC) - National Headquarters that has been activated since 13 July 2019. NRCS is regularly participating in the emergency meetings of Central Natural Disaster Relief Committee (CNDRC), in National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC) as well as in the Shelter Cluster. In the meeting, the government has directed that all humanitarian actors to provide immediate ready-to-eat food, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion (WASH) services and emergency shelter to the affected people.

NRCS district chapters have deployed response teams, when the flooding started, to carry out rapid assessment, assist in evacuations, undertake relief management and provide first aid services in all affected areas. The District Disaster Response Team (DDRT), Community Action for Disaster Response in Emergency (CADRE) and first aid teams are being deployed and currently there are more than 374 staff and volunteers on the ground to support evacuations, rapid assessments, relief distributions and logistics management in the affected districts. In addition, the NRCS district chapters and volunteers are providing support to security forces in search and rescue and evacuating them to safe areas. NRCS district chapters are managing the distribution of non-food relief items (NFRIs) full sets to 309 families and tarpaulins to 1,662 families in coordination with local authorities.

District chapters are using their own preparedness stocks such as tarpaulins, blankets, NFRIs, soaps, water purifying agent, oral rehydration solution (ORS) to assist affected families. Road inaccessibility has caused interruption to transport resources to many affected districts.

NRCS headquarters is keeping additional National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members on stand-by for deployment as needed. NRCS district chapters have been represented in the District Disaster Relief Committee (DDRC) meeting in concerned districts. IFRC Nepal country office is in close coordination with the Nepal Red Cross, in country Movement partners and the IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office in Kuala Lumpur in monitoring the situation regularly. The head of the IFRC Nepal country office is participating in the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) meetings.



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How we work

All IFRC 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 the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote social inclusion
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace**.