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Information bulletin Nepal: Windstorm

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Glide n° (n/a) ST-2019-000027-NPL	Date of issue: 3 April 2019
Date of disaster: 31 March 2019	Point of contact: Mona Arya, Director of Disaster Management, Nepal Red Cross Society
Categorization of disaster¹: Yellow	
Host National Society: Nepal Red Cross Society	
Number of people affected: 2,011 families (approx. 12,000 people)	Number of people to be assisted: 12,000

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 support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), is considering to request for a Disaster Emergency Relief Fund (DREF) allocation based on the assessment findings. As of now, no external assistance is determined yet. Only coordination and field-based assessments are ongoing.

[<click here to view the map of the affected area, or here for detailed contact information>](#)

The situation

Sudden onset of strong windstorm hit several villages of Bara and Parsa district on 31 March 2019 evening. According to the Ministry of Home Affairs, 27 people lost their lives when they buried under rubbles of houses or metal roofs that flung over the settlements. The preliminary NRCS rapid assessment report received from affected areas shows that more than 668 people have been injured, of which 342 are still under treatment in different hospitals of Bara and Parsa districts as of today. In addition, nine people are airlifted to Kathmandu for further medical assistance. Nepal has never experienced windstorm of such a scale in last 50 years. The destructions resulted from the storm have been severe; especially houses and infrastructure of essential services such as electricity and water supply systems. According to the Nepal Electricity Authority's preliminary assessment, some 2,000 electricity poles and dozens of transformers have been severely damaged, and it will take at least a week to restore them. While thousands of trees have been uprooted that obstructed the roads and highways as well.



Damage caused by the windstorm in Parsa District. (Photo: NRCS)

According to NRCS district chapters' initial report, more than 2,011 families (Approx. 12,000 people) are affected, as their houses are badly damaged by the windstorm.

¹ Based on the IFRC Secretariat's Operational Response Framework. This categorization implies that the response intervention is within the capacity of the National Society of an affected country to manage with resources available in-country. If requested, the IFRC Country Office may provide any necessary technical or management support to the National Society, and if required, the IFRC Regional Office may support the mobilization of regional disaster response tools, with Geneva supporting the allocation of Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF).

Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli and cabinet ministers visited the storm-affected districts to take the stock of the situation and expedite the response operation. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Home Affairs in a statement mentioned about the government's free treatment to the injured. Medical teams, including health officials from Nepal Police and Nepali Army also being mobilized on the ground. Government security personnel (Nepali army, armed police force and Nepali police) and NRCS volunteers are being mobilized to evacuate affected families. Currently, temporary centres for emergency medical treatment have been set up by the government.

Summary of disaster situation (as of 2 April 2019)	
Affected districts	2
People dead	27
People injured	668
Affected families	2, 011
Affected population	12,000
House destroyed completely	122
House destroyed partially	387

The local authority had an emergency cabinet meeting which have decided to provide NPR 300,000 (approx. CHF 2,500) to each family of deceased and free treatment to the injured. Nepal Emergency Operation Center (NEOC) informed that affected people are receiving supports like foods and emergency shelter from local governments, Nepal Red Cross Society, local hotels, Federation of Nepal Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FNCCI), Youth Clubs and other organizations. The Ministry of Home Affairs also dispatched three trucks containing 468 units of tent and tarpaulin and 4,138 units of clothes from Kathmandu. Other relief materials are on their way to the disaster site, according to the ministry.

From the preliminary assessment shows that there is inadequate facilities and beds available in hospitals. Likewise, many affected families are displaced and there is an urgent need for ready-to-eat food and emergency shelter. Source of drinking water is being contaminated from dust and debris and many houses also lost their toilets. So, there is high chances of open defecation which may bring water-borne diseases.

District Administration Office formed a joint assessment team with the presence of representative of local government, Nepal Police and Nepal Red Cross Society to complete assessment and identify urgent unmet need on the ground. The report will assist government and humanitarian agencies for further response.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

NRCS HQ has activated its Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) since 1 April 2019 and overall response activities are being coordinated through the EOC. The EOC is closely coordinating with the National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC) of Nepal Government, UN system and other humanitarian agencies about the situation impacts and distribution of relief services. Daily disaster situation reports, and bulletins are being prepared and shared with all humanitarian agencies in the country. Bara and Parsa district chapters have been regularly participating in meeting called by the District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC).

NRCS coordinated with chief of NEOC for the deployment of Assessment Coordination Team (ACT) members. The team will comprise member from NRCS and Nepal Police. As per the decision, the ACT team will be deployed to Bara district on 3 April 2019.

On 1 April 2019, NRCS has EOC has mobilised two National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members in Bara and Parsa districts to support NRCS district chapters in relief distribution, assessment and coordination. In addition to NDRT, 66 Red Cross volunteers and 17 NRCS staff members have been mobilized in the affected districts.

NRCS has been supporting the affected people with in-kind as well as cash supports. From its HQ, NRCS has released NPR 100,000 (approx. CHF 900) from its emergency relief funds and 200 set of non-food relief items (NFRIs)² set from pre-positioned stocks to Bara district; whereas NPR 25,000 (approx. CHF 230) to Parsa districts for immediate distribution of ready-to-eat food items. The detail response of NRCS is highlighted in the following table.

² NFRIs comprise of tarpaulin, blanket, female saree, male dhoti, printed cloth, plain cloth, terri-cotton cloth, kitchen utensils, water bucket, nylon rope and plastic packaging bag

NRCS response so far (as of 2 April 2019)	
NFRIs full set distribution (units)	206
Tarpaulins	499
Volunteers mobilized	83
Ropes	246
Mattress	100
NDRT Deployment	4

NRCS District Chapters from Jhapa, Siraha, Bhaktapur, Sindhuli and Sunsari have extended their bilateral support through cash assistance between NPR 21,000 (approx. 200 CHF) to NPR 55,000 (approx. 500 CHF) to Bara district chapter. NRCS Chitwan district chapters provided 500kg of beaten rice, 15 cartoons of noodle and 150kg of puffed rice to NRCS Bara district chapter as well.

Parsa chapter coordinated blood donation camps and collected around 300-pint blood, fulfilling the immediate need for blood. The NRCS Central Blood Transfusion Service is in standby position to support with 200 pints' blood to the injured people and hospitals, if required. Three referral cases are already supported with the blood from NRCS Central Blood Transfusion Service. The supply of blood as per the requirement is being managed in the districts as so far.



Nepal Red Cross distributing tarpaulins to the families whose houses been fully destroyed due to windstorm, in Parsa district. **(Photo: NRCS)**

NRCS district chapters and sub-chapters staff and volunteers are working closely with the concerned local government, security forces and other humanitarian agencies for evacuation, assessment, immediate response and relief distribution. The initial rapid assessment (IRA) are using mobile-based applications to identify unmet immediate humanitarian needs and gaps. As the IRA is still ongoing, NRCS will update the information and share the initial findings in coming days.

Besides, NRCS is planning to meet the immediate needs of shelter, WASH (drinking water, water purification, temporary latrines) and health services in these affected areas. More intervention will be provided once more detail information and IRA report are received from the field. NRCS is also analyzing the possibility to request for a DREF allocation to support the intervention if the situation deteriorates.

IFRC country office is closely working with NRCS team to support for conducting assessment, collecting information and preparing reports. In addition, the team is having meetings with NRCS management to speed up the response operation and resource management for the response.



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1. Click [here](#) to see the map
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Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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.

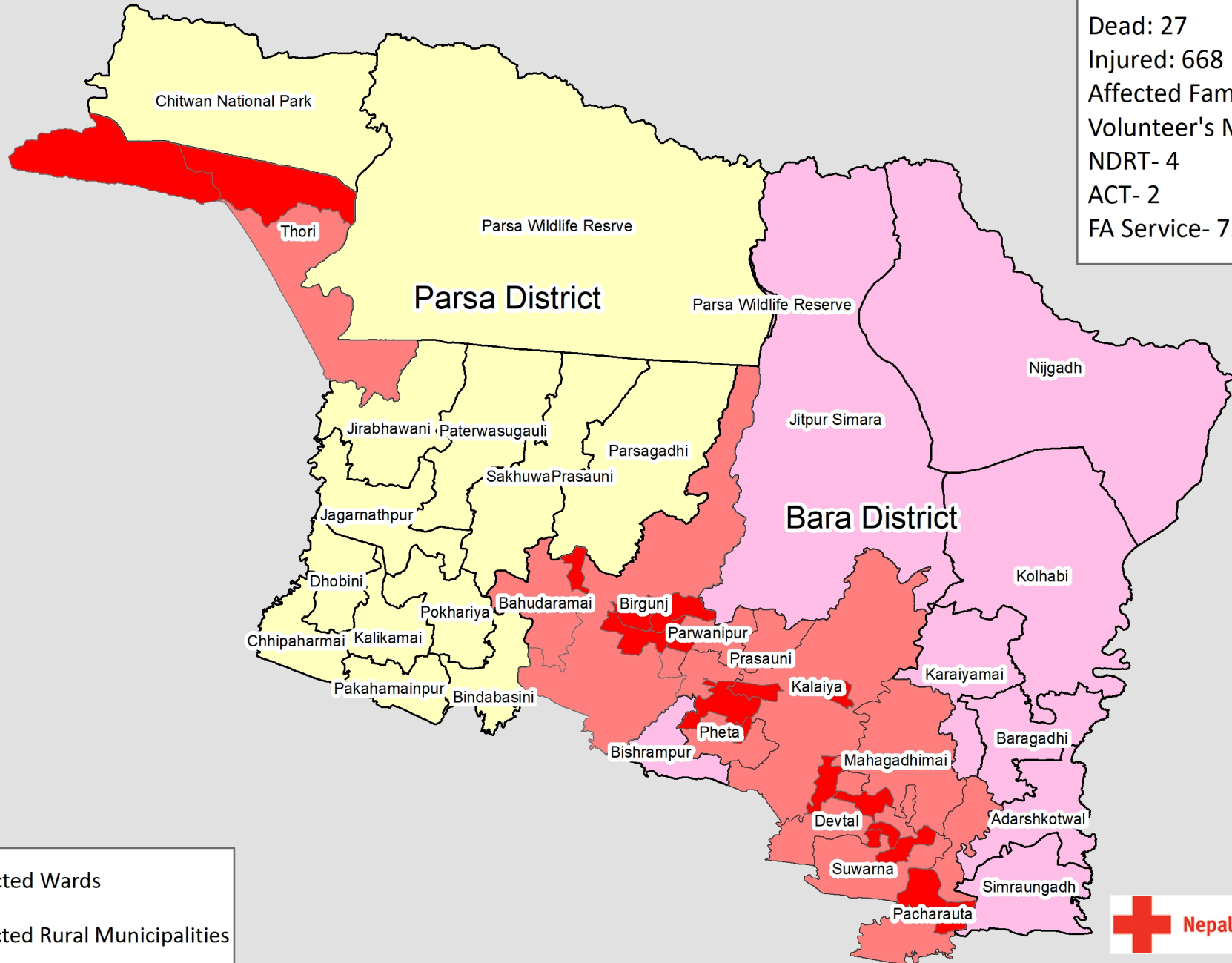


Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.





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

Windstrom Affected Rural Municipality and ward in Bara and Parsa District



Dead: 27
 Injured: 668
 Affected Families- 2011
 Volunteer's Mobilized: 83
 NDRT- 4
 ACT- 2
 FA Service- 75

 Affected Wards
 Affected Rural Municipalities

