

OPERATIONS UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

NEPAL: FLOODS & LANDSLIDES

Appeal No. MDRNP001
Glide no. FF-2007-000117-NPL
Date : 28 September 2007

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 185 countries.

In Brief

Operations Update no. 2; Period covered: 11 September to September 25, 2007; Appeal target: CHF 2,006,481 (USD 1,667,898 or EUR 1,220,487); Appeal coverage: 94 %, Outstanding needs: CHF 525,613 (USD 437,919 or EUR 319,716). [Click here to go directly to the attached donor response list, also available on the website.](#)

Appeal history:

- **Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF)** released on 2 August 2007 for CHF 250,000 to replenish the Nepal Red Cross Society's (NRCS) disaster response stock.
- **Preliminary Appeal** launched on 8 August 2007 for CHF 2.32 million (USD 1.93 million or EUR 1.4 million) to assist more than 20,000 families affected by landslides and extensive flooding in different parts of Nepal for six months.
- **Emergency Appeal** launched on 29th August 2007 for revised amount of CHF 2.06 million (USD 1.6million or EUR 1.2 million) to deliver assistance to more than 25,000 flood and landslide affected families for one year.

Operational Summary:

Torrential monsoon rain caused heavy flooding in different parts of the plain areas and landslides in the hilly areas of Nepal. Out of Nepal's 75 districts, 51 were affected leading to increased vulnerability for thousands of people in almost two thirds of the country. 179 people are reported to have died, more than 100,000 families have been affected – out of whom more than 25,000 families were displaced. More than 75,000 houses, public infrastructure and thousands of hectares of farmland are damaged or destroyed.

The Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) has been distributing relief items in close coordination with the Government, United Nations (UN) and other humanitarian actors. The World Food Programme (WFP) has provided food items and UNICEF has supported water and sanitation related items to NRCS for distribution to the affected population. The Red Cross Movement has supported NRCS with its distribution of non-food relief items, in the form of family packages and tarpaulins. At present, more than 2,000 NRCS volunteers are actively carrying out relief work in the affected districts. As of 25 September, NRCS has recorded provided ready-to-eat food items to 66,600 people and non-food relief items to 87,600 people.

NRCS has mobilized its district chapters and sub-chapters for detailed assessments needed for the recovery process. Technical and financial support from Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners have greatly facilitated the operation, with good coordination between NRCS, ICRC and the Federation. The incoming funds have so far been used for distribution costs, including storage, transportation, volunteer mobilization and communication. An additional 15,000 NFI kits are currently procured and will mostly be used to replenish distributed stock.

For further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries please visit the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Background

Torrential monsoon rainfall beginning from 10 July 2007 caused floods in the southern plains of Nepal and landslides in the hilly regions. As the heavy rainfall continued for over three weeks in the southern plains, the number of affected and displaced families increased dramatically. Water logging was a major problem in the southern parts of the country. The scale of the disaster was quite unprecedented, sustained and in large scale, which meant rescue and relief were highly difficult at the initial period. Moreover, there were cases of re-flooding which caused hindrances to the otherwise efficient and timely response.

Continuous assessment, rescue and relief operations by the NRCS volunteers were successful in reaching the most affected people. During this period, 619,632 individuals from 102,468 families in 51 districts have been affected, 25,949 families displaced and 75,743 houses were completely or partially damaged.

Operational developments

The government of Nepal gave NRCS the primary responsibility for relief distributions, and appealed to international organizations and individuals at the national level to support the relief operation. Thus, several UN agencies and other humanitarian organizations have provided support to the NRCS in form of cash or in-kind donations. As soon as the disaster began, the country-wide NRCS network started its operation, distributing ready-to-eat food, which was collected or procured locally with the support of the government.

In addition to the initial ready-to eat food distributions WFP has been supplying food rations for the affected people in Western and Central Terai. NRCS has been distributing these food packages for more than one month in the Western Terai and since mid-September in the Eastern and Central Terai.

The relief operation has been disturbed by sporadic violence, general strikes and road blockade at times. Sporadic violence broke out in Western Nepal in the districts of Kapilvastu, Rupendhi, Dang and Banke and claimed about two dozens of lives and displaced thousands of people. NRCS along with the ICRC has been involved in the assistance for the displaced families. The clashes led however to road blockages hindering flood relief activities in the West of Nepal. District chapters have also been facing political pressure in finalizing the list of needy families. Considering the current political tension in the Central and Eastern Terai, NRCS has nominated a focal person in each district to facilitate distributions and to coordinate the relief and recovery activities.

With the relief distributions ongoing, district chapter and sub-chapters, with the support of centrally deployed relief officers, have also started detail assessment and planning for the recovery phase.



Non food items being collected by affected people in Banke district

Red Cross and Red Crescent action – objectives, progress, impact

Phase 1 – Emergency relief

Objective 1a: For the coming 3 months, 25,000 families are supported through the provision non-food relief items (NFRI) in the form of family packages and tarpaulins, and 20.000 families are supported through the provision of food and clean water and hygiene articles.

Progress/Achievements

Non-food items (NFI)

- During the reporting period, NRCS distributed non-food family packages (comprising of tarpaulin, cooking utensils, blankets and clothing) to 2,700 families. The total number of beneficiary families has reached 14,600.
- These items were distributed from existing NRCS stock and with the support of ICRC and other humanitarian agencies.

- The supplier for procuring additional non-food items has been decided according to NRCS procurement procedure.
- 7,000 NFI kits including tarpaulin were delivered to the eastern region warehouses, and distribution has started.

Food items

- Ready-to-eat food items were provided to 6,800 families in this reporting period. Distribution of ready-to-eat food in the form of beaten rice, noodles, dry food, salt and sugar has been made to 33,800 families so far. This distribution was supported by the Government of Nepal and by non-government organizations. .
- Staple food provided by WFP has been distributed to 28,856 people in the reporting period, which now totals 46,966 beneficiaries from 7,900 families in Kailali, Banke and Bardiya districts.
- NRCS, together with WFP has started to distribute a one-month staple food requirement for around 20,000 affected families of eastern Terai districts namely, Bara, Parsa, Rauthaut, Mahottari, Siraha, Saptari, Sarlahi, Dhanusa, Morang and Udaipur.
- Following the agreement with the UNICEF, NRCS has received 3,500 hygiene kits, 1,200 blankets, 10,000 packets of oral re-hydration solution (ORS) and 10,800 bottles of water purification liquid to distribute to the affected families of eastern and western disaster affected districts. 1,190 packets of Oral Rehydration Solution were distributed in the reporting period, leading to a total of 10,280 packets of ORS distributed.
- Water purifying liquids were distributed to around 2,800 families in this period.

Impact

The most urgent needs of a significant part of the affected people have been met and will continue to be met. People have started to move back and return to some semblance of normal life with the relief support they have received. Detailed information on the short and longer-term impact of the operation will become clearer as the operation continues.

Objective 1b: More than 20,000 households are supported with the provision of only tarpaulin to meet their immediate shelter needs.

Progress/Achievements

- 1,971 tarpaulins have been distributed in the reporting period, bringing the total distribution to 11,323 tarpaulins. These tarpaulins are in addition to the tarpaulins that are included in the non-food family kits.
- As per the agreement with UNICEF 4,900 tarpaulins are in the process of delivery to the affected families in the eastern and western parts of the country.

Impact

Families displaced due to damaged houses were supported in their urgent need for shelter by using tarpaulins as makeshift shelters. The same tarpaulins are now mostly being used as a temporary repair measure in their homes destroyed by the flood, using them to cover damaged roofs and cold floors. Those who were displaced and have returned home and are in need of NFI have started to receive them as well.

Constraints for objective 1a & b

Rainfall has continued all over Nepal, and cases of flooding and re-flooding have occurred, hampering relief operations in some areas. Access to affected areas has been impeded by flooded road transportation networks, with some smaller roads in rural areas washed away. Temporary diversion roads are also not strong enough to bear the weight of loaded vehicles.



People sheltering under tarpaulins in Bardiya

The ongoing political turmoil and instability has also been a constraint, with road blocks and *bandhas* (strikes) declared by armed and non-armed groups of eastern and central Terai for their inclusion in the constituent

assembly. The strikes are delaying relief operations. Violence broken out abruptly in Kapilvastu, Rupendhi, Dang and Banke, disturbing transportation and security and diverting attention of relief workers and humanitarian organizations to address the impact of the violence.

In the Kailali district, affected people's access to the distribution centre was delayed as the river was extremely flooded.

Phase 2 – Early Recovery Activities

Objective 2: 15,000 affected families are supported in early recovery with materials and technical advice to reestablish their livelihoods

Objective 3: 2,000 of the most affected families will be supported in early recovery with supplementary construction materials and technical advice to repair their damaged homes in a disaster resilient way.

Objective 4: A potential outbreak of communicable diseases is prevented through restoration of community water sources and preventive health activities, such as raising awareness about water sanitation and hygiene.

Objective 5: The communities' exposures to risks of disasters are reduced, and the capacity of the communities and the NRCS to respond to future disasters is enhanced.

Early recovery measures for phase two of the operations are in the planning phase in 16 districts selected as most affected (Banke, Bardiya, Kailali, Morang, Udaipur, Bara, Parsa, Rautahat, Mahottari, Saptari, Siraha, Dhanusa, Sarlahi, Kapilvastu, Nawalparasi, Rupendehi). The criteria for selection of the village development committees and beneficiaries have been set and they are ready to be forwarded to the districts for further actions.

Relief and recovery officers have started to work with the district chapters for coordination with the local authority, disaster relief committee and other stakeholders. They have started to support district chapters for reporting and planning for the recovery.

The detailed work plan for flood and landslide operation is in process and the detail work plan will have developed by the end of next week.

Objective 6: Families separated by the flood have re-established contact.

Only three persons have been reported missing, and there is currently no request to investigate their status. NRCS together with ICRC remain prepared for future requests to locate missing family members.

Monitoring and evaluation

The ECHO Nepal country representative is currently in the field carrying out a monitoring trip with the NRCS in the districts of Dhanusa and Mahottari, looking at the effectiveness of the of the NFRI food distribution as part of the Danish Red Cross funded project

In the coming week representatives from the Federation regional office will also be coming to carrying monitoring visits of all aspects of the operation funded by the Federation Appeal.

Coordination

The coordination mechanism is described in detail in the emergency appeal document. The Central Disaster Relief Committee (CDRC) at the Home Ministry and District Disaster Relief Committees (DDRC) are coordinating all relief activities. Coordination with all stakeholders is taking place on a regular basis either through coordination meetings or through bilateral discussions with partners. Major partners of the NRCS for the distribution of relief items are the WFP for food items, UNICEF for drinking water and hygiene articles and the Red Cross partners for non-food relief items.

The Secretary General of the Danish Red Cross visited Bardiya where he and the accompanying team saw at first hand the situation of vulnerability and need of affected people in the district.

Movement coordination

The Emergency Appeal is a joint initiative of the Red Cross Movement partners in Nepal and will be implemented accordingly. Cooperation and coordination meetings, which have already proved to be an effective mechanism for Movement coordination in Nepal, will continue to act as Cooperation



Mr. Jorgen Poulsen, SG Danish RC distributing food in Bardiya

Management Meeting (CMM) or the Movement Coordination Platform for the flood relief operations among others. The Danish Red Cross with a delegation in Nepal has applied for ECHO funds and has been closely coordinating with the Federation in the course of the application.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Principles and initiatives

As an independent humanitarian organization, NRCS has maintained its auxiliary and complementary role in relief operation. Safer access concept has been followed up for better access to increase individual and organizational acceptance through impartial and neutral behaviour image in particular. Safer access workshop is going to take place in few districts next week as per the need. This is going to take place in some districts next week. All activities of the NRCS are carried out under the NRCS disaster relief guidelines which are based on SPHERE standards and the Federation's Principles and Rules on Disaster Relief, and the Code of Conduct.

National Society Capacity Building

The NRCS has functioning branches in all 75 districts of Nepal and more than 2.000 NRCS volunteers have been actively involved in the relief operation in 51 districts for relief operation.

In addition, the NRCS has 25 trained staff for Regional Disaster Response Teams (RDRTs), 56 trained staff for National Disaster Response Teams (NDRTs), 700 trained staff and volunteers for District Disaster Response Teams (DDRTs) and one trained FACT member. The society has a network of warehouses as well transportation capabilities throughout the country.

To boost up the capacity of the National Society, one relief coordinator is recruited at the national headquarters to support DM Director for overall relief and recovery operations. Two relief officers have already been deployed in the central and the eastern districts for relief and recovery operations. Focal persons for relief and recovery in the affected districts have been nominated, and needful ToR is being shared.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

The Communication Department of the NRCS has a continued information sharing mechanism through media-print, electronic and online media, at national and international level. Impact in narrative text, support available, photographs, stories and geographical map have been posted in the NRCS website (see www.nrcs.org). Similarly, situation and response updates have been regularly shared among stakeholders.

During their visit, the team of Danish Red Cross Secretary General, developed video-clip that captures vulnerability of the flood affected people in Bardiya districts and more support needed for the their mid-and long term period plus what Red cross is doing and what it needs from the external partners. It is expected to be disseminated in Denmark on the 7th (first Sunday) of October.

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

<p>The Federation's Global Agenda The International Federation's activities are aligned with under a Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".</p>	<p>Global Agenda Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters. • Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies. • Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability. • Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.
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Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Donor response to appeal MDRNP001 - NEPAL - FLOODS

TIMEFRAME: 03 Aug 07 to 08 Aug 08

LOCATION: Nepal

TOTAL AMOUNT SOUGHT:	2,006,481
TOTAL RECEIVED TO DATE:	1,893,476
APPEAL COVERAGE TO DATE:	94%

Updated on: 27 Sep 2007

	Currency	Amount	Coordination & Implementation	Disaster Management	Health & Care	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Total
			CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
BUDGET				2,006,481				2,006,481
FUNDING								
<u>Opening Balance</u>								
Income								
Cash contributions								
American Red Cross	USD	50,000		60,150				60,150
Australian Red Cross (from Australian Government)	AUD	98,061		97,080				97,080
Belgium Red Cross (Flanders)	EUR	100,110		164,581				164,581
British Red Cross	GBP	42,500		102,850				102,850
Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)	CAD	150,000		148,050				148,050
Danish Red Cross (from Danish Government)	CHF	207,750		207,750				207,750
Finnish Red Cross	EUR	80,000		131,520				131,520
Japanese Red Cross	USD	80,000		96,240				96,240
Liechtenstein Red Cross	CHF	3,333		3,333				3,333
Monaco Red Cross	EUR	10,000		16,500				16,500
Netherlands Red Cross	EUR	40,000		65,760				65,760
Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government)	NOK	2,000,000		414,000				414,000
On Line donations	CHF	528		528				528
Singapore Red Cross (from Singapore Government)	SGD	30,550		24,134				24,134
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)	SEK	2,000,000		359,000				359,000
VERF/WHO Voluntary Emergency Relief	CHF	2,000		2,000				2,000
Total Cash contributions				1,893,476				1,893,476
Total Income				1,893,476				1,893,476
TOTAL FUNDING			0	1,893,476	0	0	0	1,893,476
COVERAGE			0%	94%	0%	0%	0%	94%