

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 n°. FF-2007-000117-NPL](#)
Date : 11th October, 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. 3; Period covered: 27 September to October 9, 2007; Appeal target: CHF 2,006,481 (USD 1,667,898 or EUR 1,220,487); Appeal coverage: 95%, Outstanding needs: CHF 525,613 (USD 437,919 or EUR 319,716).

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.

[Click here to go directly to the attached donor response list, also available on the website.](#)

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, 62 were affected leading to increased vulnerability for thousands of people in almost two thirds of the country. 203 people are reported to have died, almost 106,214 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 provided water and sanitation related items to NRCS for distribution to the affected population. The ICRC and partner national societies have supported NRCS with the supply 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. The distribution of ready to eat food has been completed, the rest of the food and non-food item distributions are ongoing, but in the final stage.

NRCS has mobilized its district chapters and sub-chapters for detailed assessments needed for the recovery process. Technical and financial supports 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. The procurement process for 15,000 NFI kits is completed and the replenishment is in process.

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. During this period, 640,658 individuals from 106,214 families in 62 districts have been affected with 25,857 families displaced and 75,760 houses completely or partially damaged.

The Government of Nepal gave NRCS primary responsibility for relief distributions, and appealed to international organizations and individuals at the national level to support the relief operation. Several UN agencies and other humanitarian organizations 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 non-food relief items, such as tarpaulin and ready to-eat food, which was collected or procured locally with the support of the government. Since then and on a continuous basis, NRCS has been providing food rations with the support of WFP, drinking water with the support of UNICEF and NFI in the form of family kits with the support of the Federation and Red Cross Movement partners.

Operational developments

Despite the effort of NRCS to reach beneficiaries, the relief operation has been hampered at times in certain areas because of community violence, general strikes and road blockade. Sporadic violence broke out in districts in Western Nepal which were already affected by the floods and landslides, most notably in Kapilvastu, but also in Rupendehi, Dang and Banke districts. The violence claimed more than one dozen lives, 30 people are missing and about 5,000 people are displaced. This unanticipated situation demanded NRCS involvement to provide humanitarian support to those affected by the situation, placing extra demands on the national society. However, NRCS continued its relief operation combined with support to the affected people.



Representatives from the Federation's regional delegation discussing the operation with people affected by the floods during a monitoring visit. © International Federation

In addition to the community violence, the Maoists have left the coalition Government of Nepal demanding an abolishment of the monarchy and a proportional election system. Negotiations between the Maoists and the Government remained unsuccessful and the elections, scheduled for November 22, were postponed. During this pre-election period district chapters have been confronted with unprecedented political pressure demanding for them to show a strong profile of independence.

Despite the volatile security situation in the Terai, work for the recovery phase has progressed. An action plan has been prepared by the relief and recovery officers in close relationship with the district chapters and sub-chapters and finalized and approved by NRCS management. Representatives from the Federation's regional office and the British Red Cross carried out a monitoring visit and briefed the NRCS disaster management department about their findings.

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

Phase 1 – Emergency relief

Objective 1a: For the coming three 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, 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 4,589 families. The total number of families benefited so far during the operation is 19,183. Please refer to the enclosed distribution table.

- All NFI packages were distributed from existing NRCS stock and with the support of ICRC, IFRC, Danish Red Cross / ECHO and other humanitarian agencies. The distributions of NFI for the largely affected districts of Banke Bardiya, Siraha, and Saptari are on going, and the distribution for the rest of the districts has been completed. As per the agreement with UNICEF, Hygiene Kits, blankets, ORS and water purification chemicals have been sent to the district chapters. Up to date water purifying liquids have been distributed to around 23,649 families of which 11,656 families have received them in this period. Similarly, 1,530 families have received hygiene kits in total including 1,430 families of this period.



Staple food being prepared for distribution by volunteers in Bardiya district © International Federation

Food

Ready to eat food: The distribution of ready to eat food items is completed and no more activities have taken place during this period.

Dry staple food

NRCS, together with WFP is distributing 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.

Staple food provided by WFP has been distributed to 5,632 families in the reporting period in Saptari, Mahottari, Siraha, Dhanusa and Bardiya districts. Food distribution is still in progress in eight districts (Dhanusa, Shiraha, Mahotari, Saptari, Bara, Parsa, Rautahat and Sarlahi). The distribution

of food in Bardiya and Kailali districts has finished and food distribution in Banke for 11,000 families is in process. A total of 52,598 families have been benefited throughout the operation so far.

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.

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

Progress/Achievements

- 19,557 tarpaulins have been distributed in this period which totals 30,880 tarpaulins in addition to those distributed as part of the NFI packages.
- Following the agreement with UNICEF 4,900 tarpaulins were to be delivered to the affected families in the eastern and western parts of the country out of which, 1500 tarpaulin has been received up to now.

Impact

Families displaced due to damaged houses were supported in their urgent need for shelter by using tarpaulins as makeshift shelters. The 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 more NFI and they have started to receive them as well.

Constraints for objective 1a & b

Access to the floods and landslides 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. 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 violence that broke out abruptly in Kapilvastu, Rupendehi, Dang and Banke, disturbed transportation and security. A week long road blockade in Banke for the west and a general strike of the whole eastern region disturbed in the transportation as planned.



Tarpaulins being used for shelter in a temporary camp in Banke district © International Federation

In addition to the above objectives, mobile health clinics have been mobilized by the district chapters of Kailali, Siraha, Mahottari, Udaypur and Baglung which has been a major support to the 10,615 population affected people.

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, Udaypur, Bara, Parsa, Rautahat, Mahottari, Saptari, Siraha, Dhanusa, Sarlahi, Kapilvastu, Nawalparasi, Rupendehi).

The criteria for selection of the affected cluster of village development committees and beneficiaries have been set and have been forwarded to the districts for further actions. Recently appointed 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 the next phase of the operation has been prepared and approved by the management.

Guidelines and work plan for the recovery phase (establishing/repairing of community water sources, supply of seedlings etc) has been finalized to ensure quality and process to identify the neediest has begun.

A recovery plan has been finalized by the NRCS management ([click here to open this document](#)) and the details of implementing this plan are under development. The projects under objective 4 will be conducted during the later stages of the operation.

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

No further missing people have been reported.

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.

Monitoring and evaluation

Representatives from the Federation regional office in collaboration with a British Red Cross representative carried out a monitoring visit to Banke and Bardiya district chapters for all the aspects of the operation funded by the Federation appeal. The team debriefed the NRCS disaster management department of the visit. The development of a single and unified monitoring plan to ensure quality and smooth monitoring is in process.

Movement coordination

The Emergency appeal is a joint initiative of the Red Cross Movement partners in Nepal and is being 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 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. The “safer access” concept has been followed for better access to increase individual and organizational acceptance through impartial and neutral behaviour image in particular. A safer access workshop is going to take place in few districts next week as needed. 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 62 districts for relief operation.

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

To boost the capacity of the National Society, one relief coordinator has been 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 their roles clearly defined.

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.

Meanwhile, the Department has posted a news story on the NRCS webpage covering some details of Kapilbastu violence, plight of the displaced families and Red Cross actions for immediate relief. Similarly, it has posted one article how European Commission has supported flood affected people through the NRCS.

25	Khotang	200	200	-	-	-	-	Completed
26	Panchthar	50	50	-	-	-	-	Completed
27	Dhading	100	100	-	-	-	-	Completed
28	Arghakhachi	250	240	-	-	-	-	Completed
29	Baitadi	200	200	-	-	-	-	Completed
30	Darchula	100	100	-	-	-	-	Completed
31	Mugu	100	100	-	-	-	-	Completed
32	Sindhuli	365	265	-	-	-	-	Completed
33	Kavre	300	300	-	-	-	-	Completed
34	Chitwan	300	300	-	-	150	-	Completed
35	Mustang	15	15	-	-	-	-	Completed
36	Bhojpur	225	525	-	-	-	-	Completed
37	Accham	50	50	-	-	-	-	Completed
38	Pyuthan	64	64	-	-	-	-	Completed
39	Palpa	125	100	-	-	-	-	Completed
40	Parsa	200	799	-	-	-	-	Completed
41	Nawalparasi	225	379	-	-	15	-	Completed
42	Baglung	156	108	-	2000	91	-	Completed
43	Jajarkot	125	125	-	-	-	-	Completed
44	Gulmi	321	273	-	-	6	-	Completed
45	Rupendehi	450	1420	-	-	2296	-	Completed
46	Kapilvastu	1425	795	-	-	-	-	Completed
47	Doti	50	50	-	-	-	-	Completed
48	Tanahu	25	25	-	-	-	-	Completed
49	Lamjung	50	50	-	-	-	-	Completed
50	Nuwakot	150	150	-	-	-	-	Completed
51	Lalitpur	100	100	-	-	-	-	Completed
52	Bhaktapur	50	75	-	-	-	-	Completed
53	Sindhupalcho wk	50	50	-	-	-	-	Completed
54	Rolpa	50	50	-	-	-	-	Completed
55	Dailekh	25	25	-	-	-	-	Completed
56	Dhankutta	-	100	-	-	-	-	Completed
57	Myagdi	-	100	-	-	-	-	Completed
58	Okhaldhunga	100	100	-	-	-	-	Completed
Total Distribution:		19183	30880	1530	10615	52598	23649	
Current Week Distribution(27th to 09 Oct):		4589	19557	1430	-	-	11656	
Previous Weeks Distribution:		14594	11323	100	-	-	11993	

The distribution of staple food during the reporting period week is to 10250 families

NFRI= Non food relief items, HK= Hygiene kit WP= Water purification chemicals Hh's= Households RTEF = Ready to eat food items

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.

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".

Global Agenda Goals:

- 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.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- In Nepal: Nepal Red Cross Society, Umesh Prasad Dhakal (Executive Director), email: umesh@nrcs.org, phone: +977.14.27.0650, fax: +977.14.27.1915
- In Nepal: Federation office, Andrea Reisinger, (Federation Representative), email: andrea.reisinger@ifrc.org, phone: +977.14.28.5843, fax: +977.14.28.6048
- In India: South Asia Regional Delegation, Ms. Nina Noble (acting head of regional representation), email: nina.nobel@ifrc.org, phone: +91 11 2411 1122, fax: +91 11 2411 1128
- Federation Asia Pacific Zone in Malaysia: Jagan Chapagain (deputy head of Zone) email; jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org; phone + 60 3 2161 0892, fax + 60 3 2161 1210, mobile + 60 12 215 3765.
- In Geneva: Mr. Hiroto Oyama (Regional Officer), email: hiroto.oyama@ifrc.org, phone: +41.22.730.4273, fax: +41.22.733.0395

Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page.

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:	1,910,916
APPEAL COVERAGE TO DATE:	95%

Updated on: 07 Oct 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								
Opening Balance								
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		166,183				166,183
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		430,000				430,000
On Line donations	CHF	528		528				528
Singapore Red Cross (from Singapore Government)	SGD	30,550		23,972				23,972
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				1,910,916				1,910,916
Total Income				1,910,916				1,910,916
TOTAL FUNDING			0	1,910,916	0	0	0	1,910,916
COVERAGE			0%	95%	0%	0%	0%	95%