

# 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](#)  
16 November 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. 4; Period covered: 10 October to 13 November 2007; Appeal target: CHF 2,006,481 (USD 1,667,898 or EUR 1,220,487); Appeal coverage: 112%

#### 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

Heavy flooding and landslides, caused by torrential monsoon rain, affected 62 districts (out of 75 districts) in Nepal. A total of 214 people are reported to have died and 106,214 families have been affected, out of which 25,857 families were displaced. Approximately 75,000 houses, public infrastructure and thousands of hectares of farmland have been damaged or destroyed.

The Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) has been providing relief assistance to the affected population, in close coordination with the Government, United Nations (including the World Food Programme and UNICEF) and other humanitarian actors. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and partner national societies have supported the NRCS with the supply of non-food relief items, in the form of family packages and tarpaulins.

About 2,000 NRCS volunteers have been actively carrying out relief work in the affected districts. The distribution of ready-to-eat food has been completed, and the distribution of non-food items has almost been completed in all districts. The second phase of food distribution by the World Food Programme is now also in progress in the Central Terai districts, namely Siraha, Saptari, Rautahat, Dhanusa, Parsa, Sarlahi and Mahottari.

The NRCS' district chapters and sub-chapters are in the process of sending reports of detailed assessments conducted for the recovery process. Technical and financial support from Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners has facilitated the operation, with good coordination between NRCS, ICRC and the Federation. The incoming funds have so far been used for the purchase of non-food items, distribution costs, including storage, transportation, volunteer mobilization and communication.

## 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 Nepal government gave the NRCS primary responsibility for relief distributions, and appealed to international organizations and individuals at the national level to support the relief operation. Several United Nations agencies and other humanitarian organizations provided support to the NRCS in the 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 the World Food Programme (WFP), drinking water with the support of UNICEF and non-food items, in the form of family kits, with the support of Red Cross Movement partners.

## Operational developments

Though the NRCS made efforts to reach beneficiaries, the relief operation was hampered at times, in certain areas, because of community violence, general strikes and road blockades. The two national festivals of Dashain and Dipawali also slowed down the operation considerably.



*Relief items for distribution in Dhanusa district*

Despite the volatile security situation in the Terai and the festival season throughout the country, assessments for the recovery phase were carried out by NRCS' district chapters, and reports on these are being sent. The assessment from Kaski and Udaypur districts has been sent.

The non-food items (NFI) distribution in Banke district has been completed and is ongoing in Bardiya and Siraha districts. However, distribution could not take place in Saptari district due to riots there. Though distribution of hygienic kits in Sunsari district has been completed, this did not happen in Mahottari and Rautahat districts because the materials provided by UNICEF were not available in the numbers required. The food distribution supported by WFP is in progress in Kailali, Banke, Saptari, Rauthahat, Dhanusa, Parsa, Sarlahi and Mahottari districts.

The deputy finance director from NRCS national headquarters visited five districts of Central Terai and conducted orientation classes on finance in emergency operations.

## 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 (NFI) 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:

- During the reporting period, the NRCS distributed non-food family packages (comprising of cooking utensils, blankets and clothing) to 2,758 families. The total number of families benefited so far during the operation is 21,941.
- All NFI packages were distributed from existing NRCS stock and with the support of the Federation, ICRC, Danish Red Cross / ECHO and other humanitarian agencies. Due to unrest in the Terai, distribution of NFI for

the affected districts Bardiya and Siraha is still ongoing. The distribution in Saptari district was halted due to continuous disturbances in the district. The distribution for the rest of the districts has been completed.

- Up to date water purifying liquids have been distributed to 31,149 families. A total of 2,590 families have received hygiene kits.

#### Food:

The distribution of dry staple food, provided by the WFP, has been completed in Siraha and Bardiya districts. Also, Mahottari has completed 80% of its distribution, Dhanusa 85%, Parsa 90%, Rautahat 53%, Banke 99%, Sarlahi 60%, Kailai 90% and Saptari 97%.

#### Impact

The needs 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.

Although the objective states that the distribution would take three months, the constraints mentioned below have meant that the completion of all distributions will continue for a few more weeks until distributions are completed in all districts mentioned above.



**Beneficiaries carrying food distributed in Saptari district**

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

#### Progress/Achievements

- 2,758 tarpaulins have been distributed in this period, bringing the total distributed so far to 33,638.
- 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. All of these have been received and distributed in the affected districts.

#### Impact

Families displaced due to damaged houses were supported in their urgent need for shelter. They received 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 were in need of more NFI, have started to receive these as well.

#### Constraints for objective 1a & b

Access to the floods and landslides affected areas has been impeded by flooded transportation networks, with some smaller roads in rural areas washed away. Temporary diversions are also not strong enough to bear the weight of loaded vehicles. The continued 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. A road blockade and strike declared by the displaced families in Kapilvastu district and the *bandhas* called in the Terai region disturbed the planned distribution process. The recovery process has been affected to an extent due to the continuous violence in the Terai region. The conflict situation in Saptari district resulted in several strikes, which affected the relief operation as smooth distribution could not be carried out during the reporting period.

#### 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.

The most affected districts selected for early recovery measures for the second phase of the operations (Banke, Bardiya, Kailali, Morang, Udaipur, Bara, Parsa, Rautahat, Mahottari, Saptari, Siraha, Dhanusa, Sarlahi and Kaski) have already started planning their recovery activities. As reported in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Operations Update, the districts are working on the basis of the guidelines and work plan for the recovery phase and are in the process of providing assessment reports to the NRCS national headquarters. Eight districts have already prepared and forwarded their assessment reports to headquarters.

Regarding the recovery assessment, district chapters have visited the affected areas and defined clusters based on the most vulnerable communities. In these clusters, focus-group discussions have been held with the community members and as a result marginalized people in worst affected areas have been selected for livelihood and shelter support.

In the meantime, the relief and recovery coordinator, together with the Danish Red Cross disaster management delegate, visited the district agricultural companies and regional and national seed companies in order to find out about the availability and price of vegetable seeds. While the seeds will be available, the supply for tools might be challenging, as the market in Nepal is not sufficient. Thus, tools might be purchased from the Indian market.

Mobile health clinics have been operated by several districts chapters like Siraha and Rautahat, to provide immediate health services to the people affected by diarrhoea, dysentery and other water borne diseases.

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

No activities have been carried out as the need has not arisen.

## 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 one-door policy (see previous updates) was discussed in the latest Disaster Management Team Meeting and the group agreed that efforts need to be undertaken in defining the policy with the government of Nepal.

## Monitoring and evaluation

A monitoring and evaluation visit from the Federation's South Asia Regional Delegation took place in early October and concluded that the relief activities were being carried out in a satisfactory manner, but that more attention now needed to be paid to detailed assessments on the recovery activities. A visit from the Federation's shelter department in Geneva has been scheduled for December, to support the NRCS in the shelter assessment and planning phase. The report is available for interested partners.

The NRCS relief and recovery co-ordinator undertook a monitoring trip to Kaski, Morang, Saptari, Banke and Bardiya districts to observe the effectiveness of the distribution. He gave orientations to the districts about the recovery process, and briefed them on the recovery guidelines and their use.

## Movement coordination

The emergency appeal is a joint initiative of the Red Cross Movement partners in Nepal and is being implemented accordingly. The cooperation and coordination mechanism is in place in Nepal with the Cooperation Management Meetings (CMM), which are taking place between NRCS, ICRC and the Federation. The Danish Red Cross, with a delegation in Nepal, has received ECHO funds and has been closely coordinating with the Federation in the course of the application and implementation. The disaster management delegate of the Danish Red Cross has been providing valuable support to the NRCS relief and recovery coordinator. Weekly meetings are taking place

between NRCS, the Danish Red Cross and the Federation, in order to coordinate the different parts of the operation

### **Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Principles and initiatives**

As an independent humanitarian organization, the 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. 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.

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 as 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 disaster management 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. Photographs, stories and geographical maps have been posted in the NRCS website (see [www.nrcc.org](http://www.nrcc.org)). Similarly, situation and response updates have been regularly shared among stakeholders.

**Annex-1 Distribution Table**

	District	NFRI distributed families without tarpaulin	Tarpaulin	Hygiene Kit	No. of people benefitted by mobile health clinic	Water purification chemicals	Remark
1	Kailali	-	-	860	-	7500	HK distribution is in progress & WPC Distribution is completed.
2	Banke	400	400	-	-		Distribution is completed
3	Bardiya	127	127	-	-	-	NFRI Distribution is in progress
4	Rautahat	-	-	-	-	-	HK Distribution is in progress
5	Siraha	2231	2231	-	230	-	NFRI distribution in progress
6	Saptari	-	-	-	-	-	NFRI Distribution couldnot be carried out due to the violence in the district.
7	Mahottari	-	-	-	-	-	HK Distribution is in progress
8	Dhanusa	-	-	-	-	-	Food Distribution is in progress
9	Sunsari	-	-	200	-	-	HK distribution completed
10	Dang						Completed
11	Sarlahi						Completed
12	Morang						Completed
13	Bara						Completed
14	Parbat						Completed
15	Ramecchap						Completed
16	Jahapa						Completed
17	Kalikot						Completed
18	Kaski						Completed
19	Bajura						Completed
20	Syangja						Completed
21	Udaypur						Completed
22	Salyan						Completed
23	Dadeldhura						Completed
24	Surkhet						Completed
25	Khotang						Completed
26	Panchthar						Completed
27	Dhading						Completed
28	Arghakhachi						Completed
29	Baitadi						Completed
30	Darchula						Completed
31	Mugu						Completed
32	Sindhuli						Completed
33	Kavre						Completed
34	Chitwan						Completed
35	Mustang						Completed
36	Bhojpur						Completed
37	Accham						Completed

38	Pyuthan						Completed
39	Palpa						Completed
40	Parsa						Completed
41	Nawalaparasi						Completed
42	Baglung						Completed
43	Jajarkot						Completed
44	Gulmi						Completed
45	Rupendehi						Completed
46	Kapilvastu						Completed
47	Doti						Completed
48	Tanahu						Completed
49	Lamjung						Completed
50	Nuwakot						Completed
51	Lalitpur						Completed
52	Bhaktapur						Completed
53	Sindhupalchowk						Completed
54	Rolpa						Completed
55	Dailekh						Completed
56	Dhankutta						Completed
57	Myagdi						Completed
58	Okhaldhunga						Completed
<b>Current Week Distribution (10 Oct-08 Nov)</b>		2758	2758	1060	230	7500	
<b>Previous Week's Distribution</b>		19183	30880	1530	10615	23649	
<b>Total Distribution</b>		21941	33638	2590	10845	31149	

**NOTE:**

Distribution of HK in Rautahat and Mahottari could not be carried out because the materials provided were not in the numbers required. NFRI distribution in Saptari could not be carried out due to continuous violence in the district.

Saptari district completed 97% food distribution till date

Parsa completed 90% food distribution till date

Siraha completed 100 % food distribution till date

Bardiya completed 100 % food distribution till date

Kailali completed 90% food distribution till date

Banke completed 99% food distribution till date

Dhanusa completed 85% food distribution till date

Rautahat distributed 53% food distribution till date

Sarlahi distributed 60% food distribution till date

Mahottari distributed 80% food distribution till date

**NFRI= Non food relief items, HK= Hygiene kit WP= Water purification chemicals**

How we work	
<p><i>All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the <u>Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief</u> and is committed to the <u>Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere)</u> in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.</i></p>	
<p><b>The Federation's Global Agenda</b> The International Federation's activities are aligned with under a Global Agenda, which sets out <b>four broad goals</b> to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".</p>	<p><b>Global Agenda Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.</li> <li>• Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.</li> <li>• Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.</li> <li>• Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.</li> </ul>
Contact information	
<p><b>For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Nepal: Nepal Red Cross Society, Umesh Prasad Dhakal (executive director), email: <a href="mailto:umesh@nrsc.org">umesh@nrsc.org</a>, phone: +977.14.27.0650, fax: +977.14.27.1915</li> <li>• In Nepal: Federation office, Andrea Reisinger, (Federation representative), email: <a href="mailto:andrea.reisinger@ifrc.org">andrea.reisinger@ifrc.org</a>, phone: +977.14.28.5843, fax: +977.14.28.6048</li> <li>• In India: South Asia Regional Delegation, Al Panico (head of regional representation), email: <a href="mailto:al.panico@ifrc.org">al.panico@ifrc.org</a>; phone: +91.11.2411.1125; fax: +91.11.2411.1128</li> <li>• Federation Asia Pacific Zone in Malaysia: Jagan Chapagain (deputy head of Zone) email; <a href="mailto:jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org">jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org</a>; phone + 60 3 2161 0892, fax + 60 3 2161 1210, mobile + 60 12 215 3765.</li> <li>• In Geneva: Asia Pacific Department; Christine South (emergency operations coordinator), email: <a href="mailto:christine.south@ifrc.org">christine.south@ifrc.org</a>, phone: +41.22.730.4529, fax: +41.22.733.0395</li> </ul>	

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

# International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Donor response to MDRNP001 - NEPAL - FLOODS

TIMEFRAME: 03 Aug 07 to 08 Aug 08

LOCATION: Nepal

TOTAL AMOUNT SOUGHT:	2,006,481
TOTAL RECEIVED TO DATE:	2,461,057
APPEAL COVERAGE TO DATE:	123%

Updated on: 16 Nov 2007

	Currency	Amount	Coordination & Implementation	Disaster Management	Health & Care	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Total
			CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
<b>BUDGET</b>				<b>2,006,481</b>				<b>2,006,481</b>
<b>FUNDING</b>								
<u>Opening Balance</u>								
<b>Income</b>								
<b>Cash contributions (received and pledged)</b>								
American Red Cross	USD	50,000		60,150				<b>60,150</b>
Australian Red Cross (from Australian Government)	AUD	454,720		481,997				<b>481,997</b>
Belgium Red Cross (Flanders)	EUR	100,110		167,484				<b>167,484</b>
British Red Cross	GBP	42,500		102,850				<b>102,850</b>
Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)	CAD	150,000		148,050				<b>148,050</b>
Danish Red Cross (from Danish Government)	CHF	207,750		207,750				<b>207,750</b>
Finnish Red Cross	EUR	80,000		131,520				<b>131,520</b>
Japanese Red Cross	USD	80,000		96,240				<b>96,240</b>
Liechtenstein Red Cross	CHF	3,333		3,333				<b>3,333</b>
Monaco Red Cross	EUR	15,000		24,930				<b>24,930</b>
Netherlands Red Cross	EUR	40,000		65,760				<b>65,760</b>
Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government)	NOK	2,000,000		430,000				<b>430,000</b>
On Line donations	CHF	583		583				<b>583</b>
Singapore Red Cross (from Singapore Government)	SGD	30,550		24,409				<b>24,409</b>
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)	SEK	2,000,000		359,000				<b>359,000</b>
VERF/WHO Voluntary Emergency Relief	CHF	2,000		2,000				<b>2,000</b>
<b>Total Cash contributions</b>				<b>2,306,057</b>				<b>2,306,057</b>
<b>Inkind Goods &amp; Transport (pledged)</b>								
Belgium Red Cross (Flanders)	CHF	155,000		155,000				<b>155,000</b>
<b>Total Inkind Goods &amp; Transport</b>				<b>155,000</b>				<b>155,000</b>
<b>Total Income</b>				<b>2,461,057</b>				<b>2,461,057</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>2,461,057</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,461,057</b>
<b>COVERAGE</b>				<b>123%</b>				<b>123%</b>