

INFORMATION BULLETIN



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

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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 185 countries.

In Brief

This Bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the situation and the information available at this time. The Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.

Floods and landslides caused by heavy rains have adversely affected parts of western Nepal, most seriously the districts of Banke, Bardiya and Achham, Nawalparasi, Kailali Chitwan and Tanahun. So far 79 people have died 16, 013, families have been displaced and over 93,968 people have been affected. The Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) has been conducting rescue and relief operations in the affected areas, along with assessing the situation, identifying the needs of the affected families and distributing relief items to them.

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Situation Summary

Following the floods and landslides that have been occurring since late August, disaster relief coordination in Banke and Bardiya has been good between the government and various agencies (UN Organizations, Red Cross and other I/NGOs). This is allowing minimal duplication and systematic management of assessment/reassessment and distribution of relief items.

The problems are being reduced significantly as the response has been much more extended and strengthened. Recently, there have been reports from the NRCS district chapters of floods and landslides effects in Chitwan and Tanahun districts. Chitwan reports that three people were killed, 2 two were missing and 774 populations of 429 families have been affected.

The security situation across the country is degrading, with are several incidences of traffic blockade. If the security situation grows worse, it will seriously affect all the relief operation. In addition, the upcoming national festival (Dashain) means that the distribution process should be accelerated.

Nepal Red Cross action and collaboration with other actors

Overview

To date, 46,012 people have received food items from the NRCS in Banke and Bardiya. In addition 3,842 families have also received non-food items in Banke, Bardiya and Achham from the NRCS, in collaboration with other agencies. Different agencies have supported cash and kinds (details below) in total NRS 35,972,500 for food and non food items. Some other agencies have directly supported food items for 4,140 families and NFI kits for 770 families.

Overall, the provision of food items is sufficient, whereas approximately 5,926 non-food kits will be needed to meet the overall need of the affected population at the time of writing. Some organizations like Oxfam and MS-Nepal (a Danish cooperation agency) have expressed to make some contribution that can meet part of the need but to meet the total there is need of more support.

The overall distribution of the emergency food assistance is expected to be completed by the fourth week of September 2006. The food items, received with the support of WFP, are being received at the Banke and Bardiya branches of the Nepal Red Cross. Nepal Army and Nepal Police personnel are assisting in ensuring the relief materials reach the affected population.

Assessment

The Nepal Red Cross (NRCS) is leading the efforts to finalize assessments, along with government agencies, UN organizations and INGOs. Other stakeholders like the Lutheran World Federation, Save the Children Fund (US) have been supporting NRCS with computer and human resource for database.

Food

There are currently adequate resources for food needs of the affected population. The World Food Programme (WFP) has supported with food and the necessary operational costs, like local transport and volunteer mobilization. A plan for distributing food for the coming month has been put in place. The WFP has signed a memorandum of understanding with the NRCS. NRCS has mobilized its trained volunteers to distribute food and non-food items as usual.

The International Federation, the Danish Red Cross and the Swiss Red Cross have committed to support (USD 5,000 / USD 10,000 and NRs. 800,000.00 respectively) for operational costs, like local transport, volunteer mobilization and other necessary costs.

Non-Food

Need for non-food items (NFI) is still urgent. About 1,086 families in Banke and 2,624 families in Bardiya have received non-food items by 11th of September 2006. The ICRC, Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Plan International and UNICEF have provided NRCS with 3,842 NFI sets have been distributed so far, but a further 5,926 sets are still required in for the affected families in Banke, Bardiya and Achham. For better management of food and non food items from Banke to Bardiya, the NRCS Bardiya chapter has deployed eight persons trained as part of the Regional / National Disaster Response Teams (RDRT/NDRT).

Table 1. Support to NRCS by different organizations, districts, cash, kind and both

District	Affected		Relief items	Immediate needs (for 1 week)	Distribution	Unmet needs	Resources/supports received from
	Family / HHs	Population					
Banke	6,477	38,834	NFI (in set)	3,500	1086	2414	ICRC, UNICEF, SCF US, FIDA, CARE, RRN, NRCS, civil society
			Rice (in kg)	111,453	100,629	10,842	SCF US, WFP, DDC, Municipality, Swiss RC,
			Pulse (in kg)	16,310	14,726	1,584	FIDA, DFID, CARE Nepal,
			Salt (in kg)	6,477	3,768	2,709	RRN, Nepal Army, Civil

							society and others
			Water purifier	6,477	3,768	2,709	UNICEF, SCF US and NRCS
Bardiya	7556	45324	NFI (in set)	6,136	2,624	3,512	ICRC, UNICEF, SCF US, WWF, FIDA, civil society
			Rice (in kg)	130,079	123,440	6,639	SCF US, WFP, Swiss RC, Plan Nepal, DFID, CARE Nepal, RRN, FIDA Int'l
			Pulse (in kg)	19,036	17,848	1,188	
			Salt (in kg)	7,556	4,743	2,813	
			Water purifier	7,556	4,743	2,813	UNICEF, SCF US and NRCS
Achham	132	827	NFI (in set)	132	132		
			Rice (in kg)	4,876	4,876		CARE Nepal, UNDP, civil society
			Pulse (in kg)	1,050	1,050		CARE Nepal, UNDP
			Salt (in kg)	132	132		
			Oil (in ltr)	162	162		

Monitoring mechanism

The NRCS district disaster network meets almost every day to share progress, difficulties and areas of cooperation areas. Partner organizations are supervising and monitoring the management and distribution activities. Relations between partner organizations are good.

NRCS along with the technical support of Federation Representative has been carrying out internal monitoring. Necessary moral, human, material, financial and management support has been made by the headquarters. A separate meeting was held with the district chapters and with LWF and WFP for sharing progress, unmet needs and cooperation.

Coordination mechanisms

The UNOCHA is coordinating relief actions along with a network of all stakeholders as mentioned in Table 1. The Association of International NGOs has been coordinating among the various INGOs in the affected areas. The Red Cross chapters in Banke and Bardiya have been assigned lead role for distribution in those areas. The NRCS is liaising with the ICRC, International Federation of the RCRC and other national Red Cross Societies.

In addition, NRCS HQ in Kathmandu is maintaining regular contact with Nepal Government, UN agencies and other international communities. The district chapters are reporting to the NRCS headquarters, which compiles the information received and produces a final report which is circulated to all the relief network partners, donors, district chapters, media and other interested parties.

The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to achieve 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.*

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.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at www.ifrc.org

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