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# Information bulletin

## Nepal: Monsoon floods and landslides

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

<b>Information Bulletin No. 1</b>	<b>Date of issue: 14 August 2017</b>
<b>Glide n°</b> <a href="#">FL-2017-000107-NPL</a>	<b>Point of contact:</b> Dharamaraj Pandey, Head of Disaster Management, Nepal Red Cross Society
<b>Date of disaster:</b> Emerging	
<b>Host National Society(ies): Nepal Red Cross Society</b>	
<b>Number of people affected: 100,000</b>	<b>Number of people to be assisted: TBD</b>
<b>Categorization of disaster<sup>1</sup>: Orange</b>	

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 the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is assessing the evolution of the current monsoon rainfalls and its impacts during the next days. A DREF request is being finalized and will be published online in the upcoming hours, while the possibility of launching an emergency appeal will be decided this week after analysis of the gaps and information that will be received.

## The situation

Due to continuous rainfall in different parts of the country, approximately 100,000 people in 31 districts have been affected by the floods and landslides in the last two weeks. Nepal Red Cross Society's (NRCS) disaster situation report informed that 19,819 families across 19 districts have been severely affected due to floods and landslides during this period. While writing this information bulletin, 64 people have lost their lives, 44 injured and 16 are still missing. At least 1,900 families are displaced due to damage of their houses. Approximately 2,881 houses are either partially or fully damaged. NRCS has already deployed 448 Red Cross volunteers including District Disaster Response Team (DDRT) members, trained First Aid and National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members on the ground for immediate response.



Floods victims are being evacuated in one of the affected districts, (Photo: Nepal Red Cross Society)

The floods and landslides have damaged infrastructure such as roads connecting district headquarters to the affected village development committees (VDCs), bridges, culverts, local markets, transport vehicles, livestock, crops and daily consumables.

Based on Nepali government's weather forecast, the rain is expected to continue until Monday evening in many areas nationwide including the 31 flood affected districts. Most of the rivers across the country have crossed the danger mark due to incessant rainfall since the last 48 hours. According to the Metrological Forecasting Division (MFD) of Nepali government, the rainfall will continue for several more days which potentially resulting to the increase of water level of major rivers.

<sup>1</sup> 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).

Disaster situation	
No. of affected districts	31
No. of dead people	64
No. of missing people	16
No. of injured people	44
No. of affected families	19,819
No. of displaced families	1,894
No. of house destroyed completely	728
No. of houses damaged partially	2,153
<b>31 affected districts:</b> Lalitpur, Palpa, Jhapa, Morang, Sunsari, Saptari, Bardia, Dang, Banke, Sirha, Sarlai, Bara, Sindhuli, Panchthar, Rasuwa, Rupendehi, Baglung, Nawalparasi, Kailali, Kalikot, Doti, Dhading, Ramechhap, Syangia, Parbat, Pyuthan, Kaski, Terathum, and Dolakha	

Following the disaster, the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) district chapters immediately deployed 448 trained volunteers to conduct rapid assessments and provide relief services to the affected people. However, their access to the affected areas were restricted due to the inundation of entire villages and blocked roads. On the other hand, volunteers are facing problems in identifying and managing the temporary evacuation centers due to scarce availability of public places and safe places in comparison to the large number of displaced people.

## Actions by the authorities

Nepal Government has issued flood forecast bulletin on 13 August 2017 and circulated SMSs to people in vulnerable areas. The Government also asked the local authorities to keep the schools closed for the next 24 hours and making announcements to move safer locations. Government security personnel (Nepali army, armed police force and Nepali police) and NRCS volunteers are being mobilized to evacuate affected families from high-risk areas to shelters in the schools and public places in Terai region and will expand to other areas once accessible.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

NRCS has been coordinating all relief efforts from its' Emergency Operation Center (EOC) - National Headquarters which was activated since 12 August 2017. NRCS has regularly been taking part in the emergency meetings of Central Natural Disaster Relief Committee (CNDRC). NRCS headquarters participated in National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC) on 13 August 2017. In the meetings, the government has requested all humanitarian actors to provide immediate ready-to-eat food, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services and emergency shelters to the affected people. On the same day, the IFRC country office team participated in the NRCS senior management meeting held on 13 August 2017 morning and the key action points have been discussed and agreed to speed off the response operation in the affected districts. Information is being shared with in country partner national societies.

NRCS district chapters deployed response teams when the flooding started to carry out assessment, assist in evacuations, undertake relief management and provide first aid services in all affected areas. District Disaster Response Team (DDRT), Community Action for Disaster Response in Emergency (CADRE) and first aid teams have been deployed and as of date, more than 448 staff and volunteer have been mobilized to help with evacuations, rapid assessments, relief distributions and logistics management in the affected districts.

Likewise, the NRCS district chapters and volunteers are providing support to security forces in search and rescue and evacuating them to safe areas. NRCS district chapters are managing the distribution of ready-to-eat food (biscuits, beaten rice, instant noodles) in coordination with local organizations. As of 13 August 2017, NRCS has distributed non-food relief items (NFRI) for 1,305 families in accessible districts.

NRCS regional warehouses in Biratnagar and Birgung have already dispatched 500 full sets of non-food relief items (NFRI). Additionally, other district chapters have been using their own preparedness stocks such as tarpaulins, blankets, NFRI, kitchen sets, soaps, water purifying agent, oral rehydration solution (ORS) to assist affected families. Because of the interruption of road transport services in most districts have been affected to a certain level.

NRCS headquarters is keeping additional National Disaster Response Team (NDRT), CADRE, DDRT, and first aid volunteers on stand-by for deployment as needed. NRCS district chapters have been represented in the District Disaster Relief Committee (DDRC) meeting in concerned districts.

According to the initial rapid assessment report received from district chapters, there is a clear gap for emergency shelter, ready to eat food, emergency shelters, NFRIs and WASH as immediate humanitarian needs for more than 7,000 families (35,000 people) in the affected districts. NRCS will seek support from the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the most vulnerable families amongst those.

NRCS is also analyzing the possibility to launch an Emergency Appeal in the upcoming days if the situation deteriorates and if assessments reveals there are further gaps.

A [press release](#) has been published and social media from NRCS, IFRC and PNS are circulating information to provide updates on the situation and actions.

## 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 (NGO's) 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**.