

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: MONSOON FLOODING AND LANDSLIDES 20 December 2002

This Ops Update is intended for reporting on emergency appeals.

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 178 countries. For more information: www.ifrc.org

Appeal No. 23/2002

Launched on 12 August 2002 for CHF 2,472,000 (USD 1.64 m/EUR 1.68 m) for six months for 130,000 beneficiaries.

Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) Allocated: CHF 150,000

Operations Update No. 2 ;

Period covered: 20 September to 1 December

Last Update: 19 September 2002);

Next Update 3 expected in February 2003

IN BRIEF

Appeal coverage: Covered

Related Appeals: South Asia regional program 01.24/2002)

Outstanding needs: Needs per the appeal are covered

Summary: With almost all nonfood items distributed as well as up to 80 percent of the food, the main part of the operation is expected to finish within the set time frame. The housing programme is delayed but should be finalized at the end of February (instead of January). Three hundred volunteers have distributed relief and assisted victims of the disaster.

Operational Developments w

The seven year old conflict between the government and armed opposition which has escalated during the year remains volatile. A national State of Emergency for ten months, unsuccessful

attempts to sustain peace talks, the suspension of key civil rights, curfews in the most affected Districts, the deaths of nearly 4,400 persons due to the conflict over seven months alone have formed the key backdrop to events in the country. The dismissal of the Government and the installation of a caretaker Government by the King in October pending a new election schedule has brought further political instability.

The escalating violence has challenged the Nepal Red Cross Society to readjust quickly from delivering services which have developed in a peacetime environment for forty years, to managing change to enable it to adjust to operating in conflict sensitive situations. Several security incidents have been recorded against the Nepal Red Cross personnel and property.

The Federation and ICRC have been striving in a much more coordinated way to strengthen the National Societies' strategies on how to respond to conflict while implementing its programs.

The operation objective as stated in the appeal for this operation is as follows: 'To meet the urgent needs of 20,000 unassisted and displaced families affected by floods, flash floods and landslides for the period of three months through provision of family kits, food items, clean water and building materials; and to maintain the response capacity of the national society in view of possible drought relief and population movements in the context of the current fluid political situation in Nepal'.

Progress against objectives:

The Search and Rescue (SAR) objective has been met. The SAR activity to rescue/support flood victims has been finalized in the affected villages of 31 districts. More than 500 affected people were rescued from danger through the mobilization of volunteers during the first weeks of the disaster.

Three hundred volunteers, who will be mobilized for future SAR activities and other related relief works, have been identified and equipped. The volunteers currently work with distributions of relief assistance to the victims of the disaster.

The distributions of 12,200 bottles of water purification medicine, (locally called Piyush) and 7,000 pieces of Oral dehydration salt (ORS-used for the treatment of diarrhea locally called Jeevanjal) are completed, meeting the appeal objective.

A total of 17,248 household/family kits (compared with the objective of targeting 20,000 families) have been distributed to the victims and altogether 90,865 people have benefited. The remaining 2,752 families are being provided with family kits. This data covers the distribution carried out in all 49 affected districts out of the 75 districts of the country. As there is still demand of household/family kits, those items are being distributed in affected parts of some districts.

The distribution of food is ongoing to a slightly higher number of families than indicated in the appeal. In one particular district, Makawanpur, the number of affected families increased from the initial target. In view of local available resources and in coordination with the local government it was decided to provide food for one and a half months to a larger group of beneficiaries.

The distributions are expected to be finalized end of January 2003, covering the harsh winter months. Due to the prioritization of nonfood items and a rigid beneficiary selection procedure to avoid overlap with local donations the distributions started one month later than planned.

A total of 17,248 pieces of plastic sheeting/tarpaulin have been distributed to the affected families. This benefits altogether 90,865 people in 17,248 families. Procurement of remaining relief packages is underway.

Discussions have been held with the government on many aspects about the rehabilitation program including the acquisition of land. The government has expressed its commitment to assist in this rehabilitation work and is ready to cooperate in every stage of the program.

The work of the Nepal Red Cross information officers and Federation regional delegation's Information officer has resulted in increased media coverage on the impact of the disaster in local newspapers.

With nearly all nonfood items having been distributed and around 80 percent of the food distributed or in the process of being distributed, the main part of the program is expected to be finalized within the set time frame. The housing program is somewhat delayed but is expected to be finalized at the end of February (instead of January).

Coordination w

The Nepal Red Cross and the Federation continue to maintain close coordination activities with ICRC, sister societies, the Government departments, UN agencies, INGOs and NGOs at both national and district level. The following is a result of the coordination:

- Save the Children Fund (SCF) of United Kingdom provided approximately 30,000 CHF to the Siuraha district chapter for the immediate supply of household kits and other relief materials;
- UNDP Nepal office provided approximately 6,000 CHF for the transportation of relief materials;
- Peregrine International Trekkers, Nepal office provided approx.12,080 CHF for the reconstruction of seven houses in Taplejung district (one of the remote hilly districts);
- A MOU has been signed between the Nepal Red Cross and the government's department of Construction and Physical planning for the design of 200 cost-effective houses to be constructed in different affected areas. They have started working jointly on the further implementation of the project. Discussion with government officials at central and district level aiming for the acquisition of lands in different districts and reconstruction of houses has resulted in adequate number of plots for 207 houses.
- Discussion with government officials in the central and district level, for the acquisition of lands in different districts, for reconstruction of houses has been ongoing.
- Guidelines and policies on the field of relief and rehabilitation have been prepared and shared with district chapters and field level stakeholders. Efforts have been made in every district to mobilize local resources.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Society w

In August 2002 the Central Executive Committee annual review focussed on the need to become more relevant in a conflict sensitive environment. The main steps are to develop a 5 Year Strategic Plan for 2003-2007 for the Society with this new strategic priority, and to increase external relations with other appropriate institutions to develop more effective services. District Chapters have also recognized the demarcation of governance and management and this has been supplemented by

training in management skills (outside this appeal) which have resulted in better services at community levels. For example, nearly all District chapters have now developed annual plans and disaster plans. Some subchapters have also developed their own disaster plans. The effectiveness of relief services has been felt, with relief having been given to flood victims within 24 hours. The support has been provided through the national and regional warehouses being activated immediately to supply family kits and tarpaulins to affected areas (which received appreciative feedback from the local Swiss Government's SDC office in Kathmandu amongst others).

New policies in "Volunteer management", "Human Resource Development", and "Training", complemented by the Training Needs Analysis conducted nationally, have provided a better framework to enable staff and volunteers to develop their capacities and skills to deliver more effective services at all levels (again outside this appeal). For example project proposal writing and fund-raising trainings have been conducted for volunteers in four chapters of the Remote and Developing Chapters programme which has resulted in them submitting proposals for new services on water provision to vulnerable communities to a more diversified range of potential partners and INGOs. More Chapter level training has also taken place, and ten training courses have been in the new regional training centre in four months, earning the centre 400,000 rupees in extra income to become self-sustaining from recharging for its services.

Objectives, activities and results

Search and Rescue w

Objective 1: Support existing and future activities of volunteers

Expected Result: The Search and Rescue (SAR) activity of flood victims has been finalized in the affected villages of 31 districts. More than 500 affected people were rescued through the mobilization of volunteers during the first weeks of disaster.

- Three hundred volunteers, who will be mobilized for future SAR activities and other related relief works, have been identified.
- The volunteers have been better equipped to assess and to assist in future evacuations of vulnerable communities. The procurement of equipment/rescue kits for search and rescue volunteers has been completed and distributed to the affected districts.
- The identified volunteers have also been mobilized for food distribution work, which is still ongoing
- Each search and rescue kit consists of a jacket, a sun-cap and a pair of rubber boots.

The below table indicates the distribution data of rescue kits in different districts and warehouses:

No.	District	Distributed Quantity/ Set	No.	District	Distributed Quantity/Set
1.	Makwanpur	10	21.	Sindhupalchowk	5
2.	Chitwan	10	22.	Baglung	5
3.	Rautahat	10	23.	Syangja	5
4.	Mahottari	10	24.	Dhading	5

5.	Kavre	5	25.	Morang	5
6.	Dhanusha	10	26.	Parsa	5
7.	Siraha	10	27.	Banke	5
8.	Saptari	10	28.	Udaypur	5
9.	Nawalparasi	5	29.	Okhaldhunga	5
10.	Sarlahi	10	30.	Lalitpur	5
11.	Bardia	10	31.	Nuwakot	5
12.	Kailali	10	32.	Dailekh	5
13.	Sunsari	5	33.	Nepalgunj Warehouse	10
14.	Jhapa	5	34.	Birgunj Warehouse	10
15.	Khotang	5	35.	Pokhara Warehouse	10
16.	Ramechhap	5	36.	Biratnagar Warehouse	10
17.	Sindhuli	5	37.	Bhairahawa Warehouse	10
18.	Bhojpur	5	38.	Mahendranagar Warehouse	10
19.	Sankhuwasabha	5	39.	Central Warehouse, Kathmandu	30
20.	Taplejung	5			
Grand total: 300 Sets					

Water and sanitation w

The distributions of 12,200 bottles of water purification medicine, (locally called Piyush) and 7,000 pieces of oral rehydration salt (ORS-used for the treatment of diarrhoea locally called Jeevanjal) are completed.

The table below illustrates the information relating to distribution of medicines in different worse affected districts, to date.

No.	District	Medicines distributed		Medicines previously distributed	
		Piyush (in bottles)	Jeevanjal (in packets)	Piyush (in bottles)	Jeevanjal (in packets)
1.	Khotang	300	150	.....	.....
2.	Udaypur	300	150	.....	.....
3.	Morang	1,000	500	.....	.....
4.	Saptari	600	200	100	200
5.	Siraha	1,000	500	100	200
6.	Dhankuta	300	150	.....	.....
7.	Bhojpur	300	150	.....	.....
8.	Sunsari	300	150	100	200
9.	Taplejung	300	150	.....	.....
10.	Mahottari	1,000	500	.....	.....
11.	Sarlahi	1,000	500	100	200
12.	Kavre	300	150	.....	.....
13.	Dhading	300	150	.....	.....
14.	Routahat	1,000	500	.....	.....
15.	Dhanusha	600	250	100	200
16.	Makwanpur	600	250	100	200
17.	Chitwan	600	250	100	200
18.	Parsa	300	150	100	200

19.	Sindhuli	300	150	.....	.....
20.	Ramechhap	300	150	.....	.....
21.	Syangja	300	150	.....	.....
22.	Nawalparasi	400	150	.....	.....
Total		11,400	5,400	800	1,600
Grand Total: Piyush: 12,200 bottles and Jeevanjal: 7,000 packets					

Relief Distribution-food and non-food items w

Objective 1: Distribution of household/family kits

A total of 17,248 household/family kits have been distributed to the victims and altogether 90,865 people have benefited. This data covers the distribution carried out in all 49 affected districts out of the 75 districts of the country. As there is still demand of household/family kits, those items are being distributed in affected parts of some districts.

Each set of household/family kits consists of a tarpaulin/plastic sheet, a woollen blanket, a ladies sari, one set kitchen utensil, a male dhoti, i.e. mail clothing (only in Terai, i.e. plain areas), six meters of plain cloth, five meters of printed cloth and 5 meter jeans cloth.

The detail data of the each item distributed under household/family kits package is given below:

No.	Name of the relief materials	Quantity	Quantity per family	Remarks
1.	Plastic sheeting/tarpaulin	17,248 pcs.	1 pc	
2.	Woolen blanket	17,248 pcs.	1 pc	
3.	Ladies sari (female clothing)	17,248 pcs.	1 pc	
4.	Kitchen utensil	17,248 set.	1 set	
5.	Male dhoti (clothing)	4,654 pcs.	1 pc	Distributed only in Terai/plain areas
6.	Plain cloths	103,488 mtr.	6 mtr	
7.	Printed cloths	86,240 mtr.	5 mtr	
8.	Jean cloths	86,240 mtr.	5 mtr	

Objective 2: Distribution of food items

Expected result: 4,000 families will be provided with supplementary food items for three months.

14 districts have been identified for distribution of food items to the most needy disaster affected people. Previously the number of districts was expected to be sixteen and finally only fourteen districts were found to be vulnerable. The food distribution work in these 14 districts is ongoing.

Considering the available resources and assessing the actual needs, the following districts and number of families were selected for distribution of food items. Most districts have started the process of food distribution.

The below table shows of the food distribution carried out as per 1 December:

No	District	Targeted families	No. of distribution	Situation of food purchase	No of families having received relief	Quantity of distributed foods			Quantity of distributed foods in each family		
						Rice(kg), pulse(kg), oil (ltr)	Rice(kg), pulse(kg) oil (ltr)	Rice(kg), pulse(kg) oil (ltr)			
1.	Nawalparasi	66	3	Completed	66	1,320	264	66	20	4	1
2.	Chitawan	250	3	Ongoing	228	4,560	912	228	0	0	0
3.	Makwanpur	1,083	1	Completed	1,083	33,000	6,600	1,650	20 +10	4+2	1+0.5
4.	Parsa	118	3	Completed	118	2,360	472	118	20	4	1
5.	Sarlahi	284	3	Completed	266	5,680	1,136	284	20	4	1
6.	Mahottari	250	3	Completed	250	5,000	1,000	250	20	4	1
7.	Dhanusha	750	2	Completed	750	15,000	3,000	750	20	4	1
8.	Siraha	300	3	Completed	300	6,000	1,200	300	20	4	1
9.	Saptari	200	3	Completed	206	4,120	824	206	20	4	1
10.	Morang	400	3	Ongoing	397	7,940	1,588	397	20	4	1
11.	Taplejung	180	3	Completed	180	3,600	720	180	20	4	1
12.	Bhojpur	100	3	Completed	100	2,000	400	100	20	4	1
13.	Khotang	50	3	Ongoing*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14.	Ramechhap	100	3	Ongoing*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	4131			3,979	90,580	18,116	4,529			

* The distributions in Khotang and Rameshap are ongoing but no figures are here as the numbers have to be verified by the Nepal Red Cross HQ assessment teams.

N.B The distribution of food is ongoing to a slightly higher number of families than indicated in the appeal. In one particular district, Makawanpur, the number of affected families increased from the initial target. In view of local available resources and in coordination with the local government it was decided to provide food for one and a half months to a larger group of beneficiaries.

Shelter w

Objective 1: Distribution of plastic sheeting

As mentioned in the household/family kits distribution table, a total of 17,248 pieces of plastic sheeting/tarpaulin have been distributed to the affected families. This benefits altogether 90,865 people in 17,248 families. Procurement of remaining relief packages is underway as is the dispatch of relief packages from the central Warehouse to the regional and from regional to districts.

Rehabilitation w

Objective 1: Assist 200 of the most vulnerable families to rebuild their houses in flood affected districts within six months

The preliminary assessment for the rehabilitation work is completed. Different teams have visited all affected districts and assessed the situation for rehabilitation/reconstruction.

There is a demand for the reconstruction/rehabilitation of 400 houses. As the Nepal Red Cross has resources available only for 207 houses (the additional seven houses will be constructed thanks the donation of a local donor), priorities have been set and houses will be reconstructed/rehabilitated for the most affected of the affected people.

The Nepal Red Cross is coordinating with all relevant authorities at all levels for acquisition of land and ensuring other support in order to successfully implement the operation. A MOU has been signed between the Nepal Red Cross and the government's department of Construction and Physical Planning for design of 200 cost-effective houses to be constructed in different affected areas. They have started to work jointly.

The Nepal Red Cross aims to construct houses both in the hilly and plain areas. As the intensity of damage is higher in plain areas, more houses will be constructed in these areas.

Guidelines for the development of project proposals by district chapters for reconstruction/rehabilitation works have been developed by the headquarters. Districts will be assisted by the headquarters and work will begin immediately after the proposals are received.

By this time, identified districts for rehabilitation are fixed as follows:

Districts	Numbers of houses
1. Nawalparasi	35
2. Chitwan	40
3. Makwanpur	40
4. Mahottarai	47
5. Dhanusa	35
6. Tapeljung	10
Total:	207

Peregrine Adventures/Trekkers of Nepal (Australian Travel Agency) provided the support for constructing the additional seven houses.

Discussions have been held with the government on many aspects of this rehabilitation program including the acquisition of land. The government has expressed its commitment to assist in this rehabilitation work and is cooperating in every stage of the program.

An engineer has been recruited for the rehabilitation program and district level staff will be recruited in December. The plots for the houses have been identified and the building will start during the end of December.

Advocacy and protection w

Objective: 1 To advocate with the district authorities for the resettlement of vulnerable communities in safer areas.

A preliminary participatory meeting with the government authorities was organized in November. The objective was to look into possibilities for the resettlement into safe areas for the most vulnerable and landless of the flood affected population. After similar meetings had been taken place at district level, areas for plots were found taking risks for landslides and floods into account.

The views of the affected people on their rehabilitation is naturally collected while visiting the field for assessment.

Objective: 2 To publicize the impact of disasters, such as this, on vulnerable people.

With the view to draw attention to the impact of the disaster on women, children, the elderly population and the handicapped, a team of four members including two journalists, the Nepal Red Cross Information officer and the Federation's regional information officer visited Makwanpur, one of the worst affected districts in November, 2002. This has resulted in increased media coverage on the impact of the disaster in local newspapers.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Principles and Initiatives w

The planned Better Programme Initiative (BPI) Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop took place between 9-19 December in Kathmandu (after this reporting period). This enabled the staff and volunteers to conduct operations in accordance with the Federation's Better Programme Initiative and the ICRC's Conflict Preparedness program.

Media/Public Information Plan w

Objective 1: To publicize donor support to Nepal Red Cross relief activities

The Nepal Red Cross information team visited Jagatpur and Meghauri of Chitwan district and a story was published to the Federation web site on 17 October on the post disaster situation of those places and focusing on the importance of rehabilitation programme.

The quarterly news bulletin of the Nepal Red Cross of September (web site address www.nrcs.org) highlighted the disaster response carried out by the Nepal Red Cross. Again quarterly bulletin on December will update on the disaster response to date.

Logistics Management

The Nepal Red Cross has procured two trucks with the capacity of six tons (1 container another with full body) as planned in this appeal. An order to procure the trucks was placed in October 2002. An agreement has been made between the Nepal Red Cross and Himalayan Enterprises, Nepal to procure Ashok Leyland trucks. Himalayan Enterprises is the authorized dealer for supplying trucks. One truck has been delivered, the other will arrive next week.

National Society Capacity Building w

In order to address the changing and fluid political situation, the Nepal Red Cross will receive support to increase their capacity in the areas of communication, transportation and visibility while the disaster preparedness stocks will be increased. The ICRC and Federation will jointly organize three trainings of five days in disaster response and relief operations in conflict areas. *Two trainings have been held, another will follow in January. See also the Better Programming Initiative ToT which was held in the second week of December. BPI will be integrated in the coming training mentioned above.*

Federation Delegation w

In September, a Federation relief delegate was appointed for six months to support this operation and capacity building of the Nepal Red Cross.

Outstanding needs w

Donor support has been strong, covering over 100%. The remaining funds will be dedicated to support the housing program in the area of sanitation. A minimum of 25 houses per site will be constructed in four districts. To further assist the beneficiaries of these houses, latrines will be installed on each site.

For further details please contact:

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All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

This operation seeks to administer to the immediate requirements of the victims of this disaster. Subsequent operations to promote sustainable development or longer-term capacity building will require additional support, and these programmes are outlined on the Federation's web site.

For further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation web site at <http://www.ifrc.org>.

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Nepal floods and landslides						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 23/2002		PLEDGES RECEIVED			17.12.2002	
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CASH						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				2'472'000		TOTAL COVERAGE 107.1%
AMERICAN - GOVT/USAID		50'000	USD	73'110	05.12.2002	RECEIVED BY DELEGATION
AUSTRALIAN - GOVT		100'000	AUD	81'130	27.08.2002	
BELGIUM - GOVT		323'444	EUR	474'815	18.10.2002	BILATERAL: 10'000 FAMILY PARCELS & WATER PURIFICATION TABLETS OR DROPS
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID		98'040	GBP	225'119	23.08.2002	
BRITISH - RC		16'508	GBP	37'906	23.08.2002	
CANADIAN - GOVT		148'500	CAD	142'560	22.08.2002	
DANISH - RC		92'500	DKK	18'306	21.08.2002	
DANISH EMBASSY				60'000		BILATERAL
FINNISH - RC		60'000	EUR	88'188	14.08.2002	
ICRC				100'000		BILATERAL
JAPANESE - RC		82'700	USD	123'967	20.08.2002	
MONACO - RC		15'000	EUR	21'969		
NETHERLANDS - GOVT		50'000	EUR	73'400	03.09.2002	
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		1'078'749	NOK	216'257	20.11.2002	
PRIVATE DONORS				339	19.09.2002	
SPAIN - RC				9'080		BILATERAL
SWEDISH - GOVT		800'000	SEK	127'840	14.08.2002	RELIEF ITEMS, INCL. TRANSPORT & DISTRIBUTION COSTS
SWISS - GOVT /SDC				400'000	30.08.2002	
SWISS - RC				80'000	14.08.2002	BILATERAL
SWISS - PRIVATE DONOR				1'000	12.09.2002	
USAID KATHMANDU		50'000	USD	73'695		BILATERAL
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				2'428'681	CHF	98.2%
KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
GERMAN - GOVT		149'000	EUR	218'225	27.08.2002	4'400 FAMILY KITS
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				218'225	CHF	8.8%