

SITUATION REPORT

Monsoon flooding in Nepal

July 19, 2019 | No. 2

BY THE NUMBERS

90

confirmed fatalities

11,839

households displaced

31

districts affected

Sources:

UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Nepal: Monsoon Flooding Flash Update 3 (as of 18 July 2019)

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Landslides and flooding resulting from torrential monsoonal rains in India and Nepal have affected 28 eastern districts of Nepal, with the most severe damage located in Siraha, Sarlahi, Saptari, Mahottari and Rautahat districts in Province 2, and Sunsari, Morang and Udayapur districts in Province 1. Authorities have forecasted heavy rainfall in central and western regions to continue. According to the IFRC, about 76,990 families (384,950 people) have been affected and 18,694 houses are damaged or destroyed. As of 18 July, the UN reports 90 people have lost their lives, 41 people were injured and another 29 are still missing.

Despite a recent decline in poverty, Nepal remains one of the poorest countries in the world. Nepal's rural communities are extremely vulnerable to frequent natural disasters, including flash floods, landslides and earthquakes. Communities often have few resources to prepare for or mitigate the effects of these disasters and even fewer resources to recover.

INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE EFFORTS

Distribution of relief is ongoing. Local governments, district authorities, the private sector, the Nepali Red Cross and other humanitarian organizations have been delivering food, non-food items and medical assistance to affected people. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) has dispatched 12,000 tarpaulins and other non-food items to Siraha, Sarlahi, Rautahat and Mahottari districts in Province 2.

The Province 2 government has disbursed 1 million Nepalese rupees (equivalent of about USD \$9,000) to each of its District Disaster Management Committees (DDMC) for immediate search and rescue. The Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) has sent two medical teams with medicine and equipment to Province 2. In close coordination with local governments, district authorities have conducted initial rapid assessments (IRAs) and are coordinating immediate relief. According to the IRAs, food, shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene have been identified as immediate needs. Local governments have started distributing food and non-food items as immediate relief.

International humanitarian agencies have deployed additional staff to the affected areas to support the government and are planning responses in the areas of health, protection, food security, water and sanitation. Shelter and non-food item support for the displaced remain a priority. The initial needs assessment conducted by development agencies shows that the affected families are in need of food, shelter and non-food item support, along with support to restore lost livelihoods.



Community flooded in Fattepur, Saptakoshi municipality, Udayapur district.

SITUATION REPORT

ACTIONS TAKEN AND NEXT STEPS

The Lutheran World Relief and IMA World Health team has completed an initial assessment in districts where we currently have active projects. We will be supporting immediate food needs for displaced families along the Kamala River while seeking additional funds to meet the needs around non-food items, shelter, and water, sanitation and hygiene.

OUR WORK IN THE COUNTRY

Lutheran World Relief began working in Nepal in 2009 to improve food security in indigenous, Dalit and marginalized communities. We currently work with local partners on agriculture, food security, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction (DRR) projects. We promote resilience and long-term development in the communities where we work by better preparing local government and communities for natural hazards and helping families realize food security and savings.

Through the Transboundary Flood Resilience (TBR) project, Lutheran World Relief and IMA World Health has been assisting communities in the Koshi and Kamala river basins along the border of Nepal and India to better prepare for and strengthen their resilience to the devastating effects of annual flooding. Since 2013, the project has been working to develop and improve community-based early warning systems, disaster risk reduction practices, emergency shelter and flood resilient livelihoods. Following the rains of July 11-14, members of project communities received early warning messages of the advancing flood and were able to move to project-supported emergency shelters. Project-supported community disaster management committees conducted successful rescue operations and mobilized emergency funds.

ABOUT LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF AND IMA WORLD HEALTH

In January 2019, Lutheran World Relief and IMA World Health combined operations to dramatically increase our impact on breaking the cycle of poverty and promoting healthier families and communities throughout the world.

With nearly 75 years of demonstrated expertise helping to transform some of the hardest-to-reach places in the developing world, **Lutheran World Relief** is an innovative, trusted international nongovernmental organization committed to those otherwise cut off from basic human services and opportunities. We help communities living in extreme poverty adapt to the challenges that threaten their livelihoods and well-being and we respond to emergencies with a long-term view. When a disaster hits – whether it's a drought, tsunami or civil war – we work alongside communities over months and years to help them recover and adjust to new realities, ensuring that they are prepared to withstand the next unexpected challenge.

IMA World Health provides solutions to health-related problems in the developing world. IMA – which stands for Interchurch Medical Assistance – was founded in 1960 by a consortium of faith-based relief agencies to provide medical supplies to the world's poorest populations. Today, IMA World Health focuses on:

- Ensuring people have access to primary health care services.
- Promoting maternal and child health through access to immunizations, malaria treatment and other lifesaving health services.
- Promoting proper nutrition, especially for very young children.
- Preventing the spread of HIV.
- Distributing medicine and supplies to prevent diseases from spreading – including malaria and Ebola – and helping communities care for those affected.
- Responding to and preventing sexual and gender-based violence.



Paddy seed destroyed by flood in Dalawa, Hanuman Nagar-Kankalini.



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