**Nepal: Flood 2017**
Office of the Resident Coordinator Situation Report No. 9
(as of 20 September 2017)

This report is produced by Office of the Resident Coordinator Nepal in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 14 to 20 September 2017.

**Highlights**

- Elections in Province 2 have contributed to a major slow down in relief activities.
- Combined humanitarian Clusters face a shortfall of US$32 million for flood response activities.
- This is the last Sit Rep that the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office (UNRCO) will produce regarding the Terai floods.

**Situation Overview**

Flood waters have receded in affected areas and partners are increasingly shifting focus toward recovery efforts, however, flooding has exacerbated pre-crisis vulnerabilities and humanitarian needs still persist. Funding requirements to meet the needs are US$32 million.

**Funding**
The funding appeal for the flood response is currently 23% funded and combined humanitarian clusters face a funding shortfall of approximately US$32 million for response activities.

The funding gap per sector:

- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH): US$7 million;
- Nutrition: US$6.76 million;
- Food Aid: US$5.85 million;
- Agriculture: US$4.6 million;
- Education: US$3 million;
- Early Recovery: US$2.75 million;
- Health: US$1.35 million;
- Protection: US$596,521;
- Shelter: US$510,000;

On Friday 22nd September, the Education Cluster and the UNRCO will take part in call with the Education Cannot Wait fund regarding an allocation to the flood response.


### Humanitarian Response

#### Early Recovery

**Needs:**

- Support for the recommencement of livelihoods is needed including for small business/enterprise recovery; cash assistance for re-stocking livestock lost and agricultural inputs.
- Rapid restoration of essential community infrastructure such as roads, small bridges, and culverts are also needed to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian and recovery assistance.
- The National Planning Commission has initiated an exercise to collect and compile data on damage and losses incurred in affected sectors and to identify recovery needs.

**Response:**

- As of 19th September, some 93,000 people have been targeted in 9 districts in livelihood recovery activities.
- Nearly 69,000 people have been targeted in 3 districts for community infrastructure and rehabilitation interventions where two organizations are reporting.

#### Education

**Needs:**

- There is still a need for supplies of textbooks and education kits across flood affected areas of the Terai. For example, 13 District Education Officers (DEOs) have requested text books from the Department of Education (DoE).
- Repair and rehabilitation of WASH facilities in schools is needed to bring the education sector back to normalcy.

**Response:**

- All schools are now open thanks to works undertaken by schools and local communities to clear debris etc.
- The DoE is compiling and analyzing the detailed information and is expected to release funds to DEOs to enable affected districts to purchase - pending approval from the Ministry of Finance. The Ministry of Education has requested NRS300 million / US$2.9 million from the Ministry of Finance to cover the cost of text books, student bags, and the repair and maintenance of classrooms and WASH facilities.
• Across 18 districts clusters members have distributed education kits. So far, 281 early childhood development (ECD) kits plus 904 school kits and nearly 18,000 student kits have been provided to school children.
• Collaboration has been initiated with the WASH Cluster in eastern Terai districts. For example, the District Water Supply and Sanitation Office (DWSSO) conducted WASH awareness activities in the affected schools of Jhapa, Morang, Sunsari, Saptari and Siraha. DWSSO Saptari also provided water purification tablets to schools and are planning special school WASH activities to repair and conduct maintenance of WASH facilities in schools. Similar coordinated efforts need to take place in other affected schools as well.

Gaps & Constraints:
• As of 19th September, the cluster reports a shortage of key items including nearly 4,800 ECD and school kits and 158,000 student kits.
• The cluster co-lead continues to support the systematic management of data including in relation to assessments. However, the quality and paucity of data remain key constraints.
• Whilst schools are now open, specific issues continue to impede the functioning of the education sector including a shortage of text books. In addition, elections in Province 2 contributed to a slow-down of overall humanitarian activities as schools were used as polling centres and to accommodate security personnel.
• All schools are closed for five days due to the local election on 18th September in Province 2. They will open again for a few days after the election before closing again for major festivals (Dashain/Tihar and Chhat).

Response programming will be aligned accordingly.

Food Aid

Needs:
• As per the recent NeKSAP food security phase classification analysis conducted by the District Food Security Networks after the flood, it estimated that more than 778,000 people in the 12 flood affected districts (Morang, Sunsari, Saptari, Siraha, Dhanusa, Mahottari, Sarlahi, Rautahat, Bara, Parsa, Banke and Bardiya) are currently severely/highly food insecure and require immediate food assistance.
• Data from NeKSAP (available here http://neksap.org.np/uploaded/resources/Publications-and-Research/Reports/Report%20on%20food%20security%20impact%20of%202017%20flood%20in%20Terai.pdf) shows the extent and pace of the deterioration of the food security context across the Terai.

Response:
• Cluster partners have distributed dry ration baskets (rice, pulses, vegetable oil, salt, etc.) and cash for food interventions to 50,512 households in 15 flood affected districts.
• Six Cluster partners have plans for further assistance in the form of cash assistance for work/assets and recovery interventions in nine districts targeting more than 47,000 households.

Gaps & Constraints:
• Those families that have completely lost their houses, food stock and other properties will require food assistance for a longer period, including recovery support to restore their livelihoods.

Agriculture

Needs:
• There is no change in the overall humanitarian situation.
• The losses are mainly the standing crops of paddy, vegetables, maize, pulses, fish ponds, banana orchards, turmeric and sugarcane in 30 districts. Stored grains, seeds, and agricultural tools have been washed out; irrigation canals and river embankments and other critical infrastructures, such as market centers, storage houses and shallow tube wells are reportedly damaged.
• The Ministry of Agricultural Development (MOAD) has estimated a total loss of US$5.74 million in the agricultural sector excluding the livestock component.
• The agricultural sector needs to urgently revive livelihood practices to help preclude food shortages in the coming months.

Response:
At the most recent cluster meeting the MOAD noted that the immediate response phase has concluded and has requested agencies working in the sector to start recovery planning. In order to respond to the situation, MOAD allocated US$1.25 million, approximately 21% of total needs, to address agricultural recovery needs.

**Gaps & Constraints:**

- MOAD only covers 21% of the total needs in the agriculture sector, while development partners are planning to address 15% of the total needs. The remaining 64% of the total needs are still unmet.

**Health Needs:**

- Rebuilding and maintenance of damaged health facilities.
- Replenishment and restocking of essential medicines.

**Response:**

- On 18th September at a meeting of the Health Cluster the Epidemiology and Disease Control Division (EDCD) presented an initial draft of its report regarding the health sector response to flood and landslides during the 2017 monsoon.

**Gaps & Constraints**

- Essential medicines requested from EDCD not fully covered
- Information gaps, due to the election in Province 2.

**Logistics Response:**

- Eleven access constrain maps have been produced and disseminated.
- All major highways are open.
- Six coordination meetings have been conducted and on 19 September it was decided to suspend meeting of the national logistics cluster until further notice.
- Access constraints maps and meeting minutes are hosted on the Nepal Country Page on the Logistics Cluster website.

**Gaps & Constraints:**

- There are no gaps in transport, storage and fuel supply.

**Nutrition Needs:**

- Mothers and care givers of an estimated 80,000 children aged 0-6 months require counselling on exclusive breast feeding.
- Mothers and care givers of an estimated 200,000 children aged 6-23 months require counselling on timely and appropriate complementary feeding while continuing breast feeding.
- Mothers and care givers of an estimated 50,000 children aged 6-59 months have moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and require targeted supplementary feeding service. An estimated 67,000 children aged 6-23 months and pregnant and lactating women require blanket supplementary feeding services.
• An estimated 15,000 children aged 6-59 months with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) require therapeutic feeding service.

• Micro-nutrient needs for children and women are as follows;
  o An estimated 800,000 children aged 6-59 months require micronutrient powders and Vitamin A inputs,
  o An estimated 600,000 children aged 12-59 months require de-worming services,
  o An estimated 200,000 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) require iron and folic acid.

Response:
• Cluster members conducted a nutritional assessment of 10,257 children aged 6-59 months. Among them 620 (6 per cent among the screened) children have been identified with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 1,751 (17.1 per cent among the screened) have been identified with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM).
• Distribution of 200MT of fortified super flour to 66,700 children, pregnant and lactating women (total target of children aged 6-23 months: 35,800; pregnant and lactating women: 30,900) in 13 flood affected districts has been completed.
• Treatment of children aged 6-59 months with SAM in flood affected districts through existing outpatient therapeutic centres and nutrition rehabilitation homes is ongoing. So far, around 2,655 children are under treatment for SAM.
• The Cluster, through the Suahaara programme, initiated scaling up IMAM programme for the management of SAM in 4 flood affected districts such as; Rupendehi, Banke, Dang and Kailali.
• Messages to improve breast feeding and complementary feeding practices have been continuously broadcasted from 58 local FM stations in 18 flood affected districts.

Gaps & Constraints:
• Supplementary food for management of MAM and for pregnant and lactating women is still needed.
• There is a major shortfall of therapeutic food to treat 15,000 SAM cases.
• The Cluster lacks supplies (Micro-nutrient Powder) to reach all children aged 6-23 months in flood affected districts.

Protection

Needs:
• Protection services such as safe houses, female friendly spaces and child friendly spaces for vulnerable people including pregnant, lactating women and girls are needed.
• Prevention of and response to Gender Based Violence GBV is needed; the flood affected areas have witnessed higher rates of trafficking compared to normal times.
• Psychosocial support for children, women and vulnerable people is needed.
• Data collection, situation assessment and planning for dignity kits distribution is ongoing.
• Information, education and communication materials including pocket cards that provides information for reporting and raising awareness are needed – ideally these would also be for distribution through other clusters.

Response:
• 4,036 individuals (1,377 children, 2,041 women and 618 men) have been provided with psychosocial support services.
• 24 child friendly spaces (CFS) are now operational in seven affected districts benefitting 1,820 children
• Nine female friendly spaces (FFS) are now operational in Kailali, Morang, Sunsari, Siraha, Mahottari, Sarlahi, Rautahat, Dang and Bardiya catering the needs of 450 pregnant, lactating women and adolescent girls.
• 4,418 dignity kits have been distributed to women and adolescent girls.

Gaps & Constraints:
• There are an insufficient number of dignity kits and nutritious food to meet the caseload of affected pregnant and lactating women. Dignity kit distribution needs to be completed as much as possible before the Deshain holiday period.
• Loss of civil documentation (e.g. birth registration, citizenship document, land certificates etc.) poses an obstacle, to access essential services and compensation.

Shelter

Needs:
• A detailed assessment report is required for further planning of recovery/reconstruction.

Response:
• More than 106,000 households have been provided with emergency shelter/tarps/NFIs and more than 24,300 households are to be provided with corrugated iron sheets and additional household items. Other household items (blankets, mattress, kitchen set, mosquito net, clothes) have been provided to more than 63,000 households.
• Detailed assessments are ongoing or completed in some of the affected districts (Dang, Banke, Bardiya, and Jhapa).

Gaps & Constraints:
• The detailed assessment status of many of the affected districts is unclear.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:
• Continuation of WASH response and recovery work is required with end use monitoring.
• Closer linkages with humanitarian and development actors is needed to ensure ongoing service provision.

Response:
• A joint monitoring visit by National WASH Cluster has been agreed upon to ensure quality response for WASH. This is planned for Mid-October 2017.
• The Cluster has provided more than 2 million water purification tablets plus other items benefitting nearly 343,000 people.
• Rehabilitation of the water supply systems and sanitation facilities continues in affected districts by the government and Cluster members.
• Hygiene promotion is being continued by cluster member agencies in affected districts as part of the prevention of water borne diseases and public health concerns.
• The Joint Response Plan has been shared amongst the WASH development partners group.

Gaps & Constraints:
• Nearly 430,000 people require WASH support against a target population of 800,000. CERF funds will be able to reach 370,063 affected people (68,325HH).
• Elections have affected the WASH response in 8 of the most affected districts.

Camp coordination and camp management (CCCM)

Needs:
• Ongoing shelter, WASH, health and psychosocial needs across affected locations. In Banke and Morang, for example, 800 households have pressing urgent requirements in these sectors.

Response:
The CCCM Cluster has conducted site level assessments in six districts which concluded on 29th August; Morang, Sunsari, Saptari, Siraha, Banke and Bardiya. The assessment showed a population of 5000 persons living in temporary settlements in 18 sites.

A detailed Displacement Tracking Matrix report was shared with humanitarian partners.

Additionally, there are about 800 households in Morang and Banke who are living in camp-like settings where the Cluster has conducted an assessment of their needs and will follow-up with relevant assistance.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Financial constraints continue to hamper relief efforts e.g. US$500,000 is needed to address needs of 800 households in Banke and Morang.

Coordination

Cash Coordination

Since most of the humanitarian and development agencies will enter into early recovery and recovery activities in the flood-affected districts, the Cash Coordination Group (CCG) is planning to train the district and local level non-governmental staff of selected organizations on 'market assessment and analysis' so that they can be used to market-based project assessment, design, response and evaluation. The CCG has shared the ‘market functionality’ map (August 25th version) of flood-affected districts to its members.

Inter-Cluster Gender in Humanitarian Action Task Team

Needs:

- Ensure the equitable and safe distribution of relief, provision of services and dissemination of information to affected populations of all genders, ages and diversities, and provide targeted support to the most vulnerable and marginalized populations including single women, female headed households, pregnant and lactating women, as well as Dalit persons, LGBTI persons, children, older persons and persons with disabilities.

- Ensure clear communication and consultations with affected populations of all genders, ages and diversities regarding (1) relief and recovery support and services, including locations for distributions, and (2) plans for temporary shelter options and shelter rehabilitation options before, during and after closures of flood shelters in schools.

- Information on key gender risks, needs and capacities of affected and displaced populations - across sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity/caste and other social diversities – to be collected through ongoing and planned assessments.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Lack of shelter, or unsafe shelter, is reportedly exposing women and children, in particular single women, to additional protection risks. Further, women, especially single women and female headed households (22% of affected households), are reportedly facing additional workload burdens, due to increased responsibilities for care work of elderly, children, sick and differently abled members of their families and communities. This is having negative implications on their mental and physical health, as well as reducing their time available for resting, income generation, and accessing relief and recovery support and information. Women, children and the most vulnerable and marginalized groups, including single women, should be targeted for shelter support.
Community Engagement Working Group

Needs:
• A comprehensive picture of the communication and information needs of flood affected communities has still not been developed. While radio programmes on flood and landslide safety, as well as response issues continue to be broadcast across more than 160 local radio stations, the collection of feedback from communities by partner agencies has largely been put on hold due to the election code of conduct.

Response:
• The Common Feedback Project will expand its presence into the top ten flood affected districts after the Dashawn festival to more systematically capture and track the issues of the affected population, and ensure their voice is taken into account in response planning.

Background on the crisis
Beginning Friday, 11 August 2017 Nepal has experienced its worst rains in 15 years, resulting in large scale impacts on life, livelihood and infrastructure across 35 of Nepal’s 75 districts: Panchthar, Ilam, Jhapa, Morang, Sunsari, Saptari, Siraha, Dhanusa, Mahottari, Sarlahi, Rautahat, Bar, Parsa, Chitwan, Makwanpur, Lalitpur, Sindhuli, Nawalparsi, Palpa, Kapilbastu, Dang, Banka, Bardiya, Kailali, Surkhet, Salyan and Kalikot. This emergency comes at a time when Nepal is already struggling to recover from the 2015 earthquake, with much reconstruction and recovery work still to be done. Five of the current flood affected districts are also earthquake affected districts, while four of the current flood affected districts were affected by large scale flooding in 2014, and have yet to fully recover.

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