



Floods in Kathmandu after heavy rainfall lasting several days.
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Nepal Floods Humanitarian Situation Update # 1

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for every child

Reporting period: 1 October 2024

Overview

Heavy rainfall between 27 and 28 September has swept across Nepal, causing widespread flooding affecting thousands of children and their families.

According to early estimates by Government authorities, around **217 people**, including **35 children (11 girls and 24 boys)**, have lost their lives, with many others injured or missing. **Hundreds of houses** have been damaged, displacing thousands of people, and exposing them to the elements. In addition, landslides and rubble have blocked major roads hampering search and rescue efforts and access to critical services. The incessant rains, which lashed down non-stop, are one of the heaviest rains Nepal has seen over the past few decades.

Children are especially vulnerable during floods. Initial reports indicate **13 major hospitals** have been damaged and water supply has been widely affected, having harmful – sometimes life-threatening – consequences for children's health and nutrition. Water-borne (such as cholera) and vector-borne (such as dengue fever) disease outbreaks are a major concern. Damage to **54 schools** deprives over 10,000 boys and girls of access to safe learning spaces.

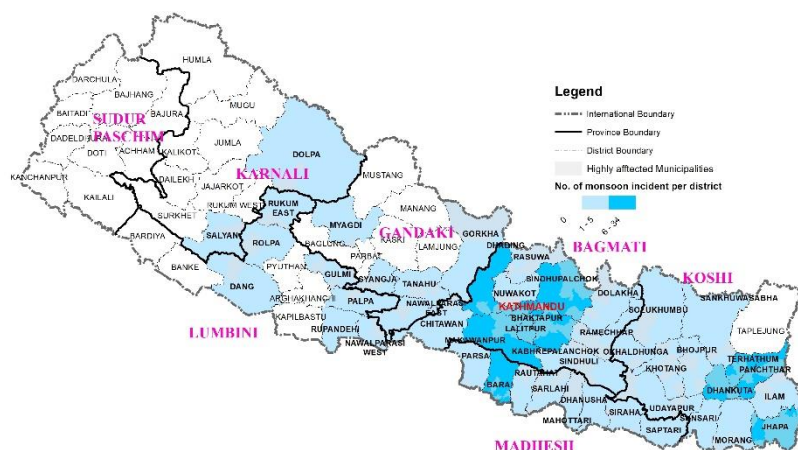
The areas highlighted red in the map represent those most affected by floods and landslides. In total, 23 districts have been affected.

Situation in Numbers:

217
People killed, including 35 children

126
People injured

Flood and landslides-affected areas:



UNICEF response

UNICEF is on the ground and working round the clock to reach the most affected people, including children, women and the most vulnerable groups with life-saving interventions and critical water, sanitation, and hygiene supplies.

With government leadership, UNICEF's response focuses on ensuring the protection of children, continuous access to education, and health and nutrition services. Through existing interagency coordination mechanism, UNICEF is leading the response to the humanitarian situation in the following sectors:



HEALTH

- With an estimated 13 hospitals, including tertiary level hospitals damaged, access to healthcare for children and their families is of a serious concern. The floods have significantly increased the risk of water-borne and vector-borne disease outbreaks including cholera and dengue fever. Assessment of cold chain equipment status is ongoing.
- **In response**, emergency supplies, including 1,000 bed nets, have been dispatched to reach the needs of 2,000 affected households.



WASH

- Initial reports show that many water supply systems and sanitation facilities have been affected by floods and landslides, affecting the provision of safe water and sanitation in affected areas. Notably, with over half of the urban population relying on alternate sources of water such as through tankers or wells, both community and/or household level engagements are required to prevent possible disease outbreaks. Environmental cleaning and disinfection of water supply/sanitation facilities is therefore a top priority.
- **In response**, UNICEF has dispatched from its pre-positioned supply stock, 2,000 set of hygiene kits, buckets, and water purifiers to the affected areas.



EDUCATION

- Around 54 schools have been reported as damaged by the floods, affecting over 10,000 children. The Government of Nepal announced schools in affected areas to close for three days, affecting children's learning continuity. UNICEF is working with the government and partners to ensure minimum disruption of access to education and continuous access to safe learning spaces, quality education and psychosocial support.



NUTRITION

- Concerns over malnutrition have increased, particularly for vulnerable children under-five due to contamination of water sources and subsequent disease outbreaks. UNICEF's main concern is to ensure continuation of lifesaving nutrition services for affected children and their appropriate feeding and care.
- **In response**, UNICEF is supporting the Government of Nepal to screen children under-five years of age for malnutrition. Identified malnourished children will be provided with support through government programmes.



CHILD PROTECTION

- The recent floods and landslides in Nepal have had a devastating impact on the physical, emotional and mental health of children and their families. Children and their families are at high risk of increased violence, abuse and exploitation including gender-based violence, trafficking, psychosocial distress and trauma, particularly with the erosion of the normal routines of families.
- **In response**, 18 child helplines are operational round the clock to provide any support required for the families most affected by flood and landslide. The National Child Rights Council in collaboration with the Nepal Police is operating a National Center for Children at Risk (Hotline 104) to receive reports on missing children from across the country.

SOCIAL PROTECTION/CASH +

- Many already vulnerable children and families have been affected by the floods and landslides.
- **In response**, UNICEF and its partners, including the Government of Nepal, are planning to use humanitarian CASH+ approach to provide families with much needed support.



Social Behavior Change (SBC)+

SBC, Risk Communication and Community Engagement, Accountability to the Affected Population

- The Madhesh Field Office has requested support from the Nepal Office in assessing the needs of the affected populations, their concerns, and priorities. This information will be used to support the implementation of risk communication and community engagement activities to address both primary impact of floods and secondaries such as disease outbreaks.
- **In response**, UNICEF's I-Hear-U social listening platform analyzed over 20,000 online posts between 27 and 29 September; deep concerns expressed among communities about severe impacts including emotional and psychological tolls; other concerns include long-term impacts while calling for improved disaster preparedness and infrastructure.
- Dissemination of 250 information, Education and Communication (IEC) packages on how to stay safe during the emergency distributed among communities. External digital community engagement platforms (U-Report and loGT) on [Staying safe during rainy season](#) reached 300 users over the weekend.
- Selected 44 social mobilizers to reach 1,720 households and orient 10,222 people in affected communities on lifesaving, protection, and recovery actions through community engagement.

Funding needs

Preparedness ahead of the floods has supported a timely response, including the quick delivery of supplies to address urgent and immediate needs of the affected communities. UNICEF is reviewing its supply stock and replenishing need. Funding for the flood response remains a concern. UNICEF is reprioritizing funds to support shortages. As always, we welcome your continued support for the children in Nepal.

USD 2 MILLION

An initial USD 2 million is needed for procurement and replenishing of lifesaving supplies, including hygiene kits, bed nets, water purification tablets, and buckets.

Communication content on the flood situation and response can be found here: [WeShare Package](#)

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