

NEPAL: Rasuwa floods

FLASH APPEAL

As of 27 August 2026



HIGHLIGHTS

- Nepal flash floods have affected an estimated 10,000 households (50,000 people, including 17,000 children), across Rasuwa, Nuwakot and Dhading districts, with the death toll continuing to rise¹, hundreds still missing, and many families displaced.
- Critical infrastructure, health facilities and schools have been severely damaged, disrupting access to healthcare, safe water, education and protection services for children and families.
- UNICEF is scaling up life-saving support across health, nutrition, WASH, education, child protection, and social protection and risk communication, but urgent funding is needed to sustain the response and support early recovery. UNICEF appeals for US\$ 17.1 million to sustain its emergency response and support recovery over the coming months.

50,000²

People targeted
for assistance

17,000³

Children
targeted for
assistance

332⁴

Deaths
14 children (7
girls and 7
boys)

73

People
injured

644

People
missing

18,624⁵

Buildings flooded

¹ The death toll is expected to rise

² NDRRMA initial assessment

³ UNICEF estimates of children % - 34%

⁴ Nepal Police

⁵ Analysis from Climate, Risk and Resilience lab

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Heavy floods in Nepal's Rasuwa, Nuwakot and Dhading districts have affected an estimated 10,000 households (an estimated 50,000 people, including 17,000 children). The current death toll of ~332 continues to rise, with many people displaced and unable to return home. Children face heightened risks of illnesses, psychosocial distress, violence, exploitation and abuse during emergencies, and UNICEF is deeply concerned about their safety, protection and wellbeing.

The disaster has caused extensive damage to critical infrastructure, including roads, bridges, hydropower facilities, water systems and telecommunications networks. Numerous houses and vehicles have been swept away by floodwater. Rasuwa remains largely inaccessible by road, while power outages and limited network connectivity continue to hamper response efforts and the delivery of essential services.

At least four health facilities have severe damage, limiting access to healthcare for children and families at a time when needs are increasing. More than twelve schools have also been damaged, disrupting children's learning and depriving them of safe spaces to learn, play, recover and access psychosocial support.

Investments in preparedness ahead of the floods, including the pre-positioning of supplies and community engagement efforts, enable a rapid initial response to identify and address the most urgent needs of affected children and families. UNICEF is now scaling up the delivery of life-saving supplies to the hardest-hit communities, while reviewing and replenishing critical stocks. However, without adequate and timely funding, UNICEF's ability to provide essential health, water, sanitation, child protection, education and social protection services for children, including children with disabilities, and women will be significantly constrained. Immediate support is required to save lives, protect vulnerable children and support early recovery efforts.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

UNICEF will work closely with the Government of Nepal; and other humanitarian partners to reach the affected children and their families with lifesaving support. **Proposed locations:** Rasuwa, Nuwakot and Dhading districts.

Education

Situation and Needs

- A large proportion of schools in affected areas were located close to riverbanks in affected areas. Around 69 schools are located within 500 meters of the riverbanks, with 18,918 students enrolled in them (9,350 girls and 9,566 boys). At least 23 schools are located directly at the river between the border and Trisuli bazar, which will need to be rehabilitated. An additional 80 schools were located within 1,000 meters of the flood banks and have experienced lower levels of damage.
- Temporary learning centers (with water and sanitation facilities) need to be provided for the damaged schools. There is also extensive loss and damage of school learning materials and supplies and damage to classrooms (desks, books, computers, recreation materials).
- Psychosocial support for children and teachers is required given the widespread trauma experienced by children.
- An estimated 10,000 affected school-age children may need immediate assistance for learning continuity.

Response

- Education supplies are being dispatched to support learning with more needs to be addressed moving forward.
- UNICEF first responders activated to support immediate needs assessment together with government cluster mechanisms. UNICEF will support rapid needs assessment for early recovery.
- Temporary learning centers are required to support learning continuity of children.
- Provide support to climate resilient school infrastructure recovery.

Funding Needs

US\$ 2,500,000

- **Short-term humanitarian response:** US\$ 500,000 for replenishment of learning materials, needs assessments, and temporary learning centers.
- **Medium- to longer-term rehabilitation, climate-resilience, and disaster prevention:** US\$ 2,000,000 to support climate resilient school infrastructure recovery.

Health

Situation and Needs

- Three health facilities in Rasuwa are fully destroyed and Baireni Hospital in Dhading is partially damaged, reducing local trauma-care and routine health capacity.
- Cold-chain equipment at Syabrubesi health post (~182L: fridge + freezer) is presumed lost; Baireni Hospital's equipment (~347L) needs urgent inspection for temperature-excursion risk.
- The Cabinet's disaster crisis-zone declaration includes free treatment for all injured persons, an important enabler for health-service access.

Response

- Two (2) medical tents, 1,533 bed nets and 1,459 newborn kits to be dispatched.
- A trained mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) team comprising 2 psychiatrists, 2 clinical psychologists, psychosocial counsellors will be deployed.

Funding Needs

US\$ 2,040,000

Short-term humanitarian response: US\$ 170,000 for replenishment of the two medical tents, 1,533 bed nets and 1,459 newborn kits, birthing centre equipment replacement and cold chain equipment in damaged health facilities.

Medium-term needs: US\$1.87 million to make health facilities in Rasuwa, Nuwakot and Dhading climate-resilient and disaster-ready, covering solar power, restored cold chain, climate-proof WASH, and community early-warning systems across all 24 known health facilities in the three districts (6 in Rasuwa, 7 in Nuwakot, 11 in Dhading)

Nutrition

Situation and Needs

- Of the 17,000 affected children, a few hundred will need treatment for acute malnutrition. In addition to around 1,500 pregnant and breastfeeding mothers needing nutrition support. The current stock of RUTF at national and provincial levels is very limited. With already a shortage of 20,000 cartons of RUTF, this will increase pressure on the system.
- Immediate nutrition needs include rapid assessment of affected populations, continuity of infant and young child feeding (IYCF) support, screening for acute malnutrition, and capacity building of the health workers and Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs) on revised Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) guideline), micronutrient supplementation, and integration of nutrition services such as nutrition information and counselling within emergency health and WASH responses.
- In addition, 1,500 pregnant and lactating mothers and 9,000 adolescents require Iron Folic Acid (IFA) supplementation.

Response:

- Nutrition commodities such as Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF), Micro-Nutrient Powder (MNP), and IFA are ready to be dispatched.

Funding Needs

US\$ 100,000 for immediate needs in the flood-affected areas, and US\$ 800,000 for the restocking of nationwide RUTF (to reach 20,000 children with severe acute malnutrition nationwide).

Short term humanitarian response and medium-term needs: \$ 900,000 to support immediate life-saving nutrition interventions.

Protection

Situation and Needs

- An estimated 17,000 children require urgent child protection support, while women, children, adolescents and persons with disabilities face heightened risks of trauma, psychological distress and other protection concerns.
- Significant numbers of children are likely to have been separated from their caregivers, creating an urgent need for identification, family tracing and reunification services, as well as alternative care arrangements where reunification is not immediately possible.
- Displacement and increased population movements, particularly in border areas, are heightening risks of trafficking, exploitation, abuse and gender-based violence, underscoring the need for strengthened protection monitoring, prevention measures and targeted support for women and girls.

Response

- Child and family-focused MHPSS through Psychological First Aid, group-based psychosocial support, individual counselling, and referral to specialized mental health and clinical services for affected populations.
- Identify, register, trace, reunify, and provide follow-up support to unaccompanied and separated children in coordination with relevant authorities and service providers.
- Strengthen child protection case management services for vulnerable, at-risk, and crisis-affected children, including assessment, emergency support, and referral to appropriate protection, health, legal, and social services.

Funding Needs

US\$ 850,000

- **Short-term humanitarian response:** USD 350,000 for immediate child protection, mental health and psychosocial support, establishment of child-friendly spaces and recreational support kits, case management, family tracing and reunification for unaccompanied and separated children, protection monitoring, and prevention of gender-based violence /prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) interventions.
- **Medium-term needs:** USD 500,000 for sustained MHPSS and child protection services, family reintegration and alternative care support, strengthened case management and referral systems, capacity building of frontline workers, community-based protection mechanisms, and measures to prevent and respond to violence, trafficking, exploitation, and gender-based violence.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Situation and Needs

- Approximately 10,000 households, covering at least 50,000 people, require immediate water, sanitation and hygiene facilities and support.
- The extent of damage to community-based and large-scale water supply systems has yet to be assessed.
- Access constraints and limited communication with affected areas are currently limiting the assessment of WASH infrastructure damage and needs.

Response

- Immediate support is underway for 1,000 households with life-saving WASH supplies, including hygiene kits, buckets, mugs, water purifiers and information, education and communication materials.
- UNICEF is ready to support with emergency water and sanitation facilities in the short-term and rehabilitation of these facilities in the medium-term.
- Deployment of human resources is planned, as needed, to the affected areas, in coordination with government authorities.
- WASH messages are being disseminated through social media to help prevent waterborne diseases.

Funding Needs

US\$ 5,250,000

Short-term humanitarian response: US\$1.25 million to provide immediate life-saving WASH assistance to affected households, including emergency water supply, hygiene supplies, water treatment, sanitation support, risk communication and deployment of technical/human resources.

Medium- to long-term recovery and climate resilience: US\$4 million to rehabilitate damaged WASH infrastructure and strengthen water and sanitation systems to be more climate- and disaster-resilient, reducing vulnerability to future floods and related hazards.

Shock-Responsive Social Protection and CASH+

Situation and Needs

About 10,000 households with approximately 17,000 children are in need of immediate support to avoid households from engaging in negative coping strategies that could irreversibly harm children. The government of Nepal has a well-established social protection system together with shock responsive social protection guidelines allowing for the quick identification and delivery of cash assistance to meet urgent basic consumption needs and access to services. These households would receive NPR 15,000 as a transfer. A market assessment is underway to determine market viability.

Beyond the immediate response it is expected that the most vulnerable families will continue to need cash assistance in the medium term due to heightened expenses, loss of assets and livelihoods, reduced or destroyed income, and increased unpaid care responsibilities. Support will be targeted at families with children 0-5, children with disabilities, and children receiving child protection services. Approximately 3000 families will be reached with NPR 2000 for 15 months, to be paid quarterly.

Immediate Response (0-3 months)

- Providing additional cash to 10000 impacted HHs with MPC 15,000
- Where possible, UNICEF will link the cash assistance with UNICEF supported services (wash and child protection)

Medium term support (3-18 months)

- UNICEF will continue to provide cash transfers through the government system to priority children (children 0-5, children with disabilities, and children receiving child protection services) for 15 months.
- UNICEF will also work with the government on a recovery trajectory to strengthen the system to be able to continue providing support to affected populations and/or refer onto appropriate existing social protection programmes.

Funding Needs

- US\$1,400,000 (immediate response only)
- US\$ 850,000 (medium term support)

Social and Behavioral Change (SBC)/Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE), Accountability to the Affected Population (AAP)

As part of the SBC+ emergency response system, UNICEF is coordinating with government counterparts, private sector partners and sectoral teams to strengthen risk communication and community engagement (RCCE), accountability to affected populations (AAP), social and community listening, and timely information dissemination through digital platforms and community-facing channels.

Response

- Flood-related infographics and lifesaving messages have been disseminated through text, social media channels to promote verified information and protective actions among affected communities.

- Real-time online social listening through I-Hear-U is being conducted to identify community concerns, information needs, rumors, and misinformation trends, enabling adaptive risk communication and evidence-informed response decisions.
- UNICEF is coordinated with Nepal Scouts and Rotaract to support voluntary community mobilization for lifesaving information sharing, community social listening, feedback collection, and mobile-based Rapid Information Communication and Accountability Analysis (RICCA), ensuring that community voices and concerns inform the flood response.

Funding Needs

US\$ 325,000

Immediate emergency response needs: US\$50,000 is required to sustain and scale priority SBC+ interventions during the acute phase of the flood response, including targeted SMS dissemination, verified digital engagement, social and community listening, community feedback mechanisms, content development, coordination with volunteer networks, and information amplification to reach affected populations with timely, actionable and trusted information.

Medium-term needs: US\$275,000 is required to strengthen and sustain SBC+ systems for recovery and preparedness, including ongoing RCCE, AAP/community feedback mechanisms, social and community listening, youth and community engagement platforms, partner capacity strengthening, misinformation management, and institutionalization of community-informed preparedness approaches.

Media, communications and visibility

- UNICEF Nepal disseminated solidarity messages on the flood emergency through its social media platforms, highlighting concerns for affected children and families, expressing condolences, and reaffirming UNICEF's support to the Government-led response. Content was published across [Facebook](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).
- A UNICEF content team was deployed to Nuwakot District, one of the flood-affected areas, in the early morning of Thursday 27 August 2026, to conduct an initial assessment and document the impact on children and families. The team is collecting first-hand accounts, photographs and video footage.
- All multimedia media assets are available at <https://weshare.unicef.org/Folder/2AMZIFWHG2XF>

Funding Requirement:

SECTORS	Budget
	(in US\$)
HEALTH	2,040,000
NUTRITION	900,000
WASH	5,250,000
EDUCATION	2,500,000
CHILD PROTECTION	850,000
SOCIAL POLICY	2,250,000
SBC+	325,000
CROSS-SECTORAL SUPPORT (MONITORING, FIELD COORDINATION, OPERATIONAL SUPPORT)	2,000,000
Sub-total	16,115,000
Recovery Cost (7%)	1,128,050
Total	17,243,050

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Caption: A UNICEF team is handing over urgent supplies – hygiene kits – to the Government of Nepal for airlifting to the flood-affected areas.