



OCHA Nepal Situation Report Floods and Landslides

Kathmandu, 13 August 2007

Situation Overview

Water levels had been receding in the past few days. As a result, access of aid workers to affected areas in general, was improving. According to the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS)'s latest estimates, 36 districts have been affected by this year's floods and landslides, leaving 96 dead, more than 20,000 families displaced and more than 56,000 families affected. However, yesterday's rains have resulted in fresh landslides in Baitadi and Darchula where an additional four people are feared dead. Also, yesterday's rains have reportedly resulted in the displacement of up to 50 families in Bardiyia district.

It is estimated that 50% of the affected families need regular food support for the coming three months. As far as health issues are concerned, no major disease outbreaks have been reported so far by the various medical surveillance teams as well as mobile health camps in the affected areas. To address the high level of drinking water contamination, female community health volunteers are being mobilized for awareness raising on water treatment, sanitation and hygiene.

Detailed, interagency assessments are being conducted to assess the extent of agricultural, infrastructure and livelihood loss and damage situation. Preliminary assessments of NRCS estimate more than 37,000 houses being either completely or partially damaged. Also hundreds of hectares of arable land are reportedly 'sand-casted'. A major challenge now is to shift to an early and medium term recovery mode, so that the livelihood of the disaster affected population is normalized.

In the eastern and central Terai, delivery of humanitarian aid continues to be constrained because of strikes called by various groups. NRCS further reports that curfews like the one that was imposed in Sarlahi district on 12 August has hindered their movement and delivery of assistance.

Logistics support to get relief materials from the DHQs to the affected VDCs is still a concern.

During the second week of August, the United Nations Humanitarian and Resident Coordinator Mr. Matthew Kahane visited flood affected districts in the eastern region. Given the humanitarian support required by the aid communities, Mr. Kahane reiterated the need for the Basic Operating Guidelines to be respected by all so that there is no obstruction to humanitarian workers and delivery of relief in the affected areas.

The Ongoing Response

So far, more than 40,000 families have received some kind of ready to eat food, through the NRCS, I/NGOS, and UN agencies. Water treatment supplies, primarily provided by UNICEF have reached more than 30,000 families. Other non-food item and shelter support have also reached more than 10,000 families. Most assistance to-date has continued to be provided through NRCS. Other agencies actively responding to the disaster are: Action Aid, ADRA, CARE, CARITAS, CRS, IRC, OCHA, OXFAM, PLAN, RRN, Save the Children Alliance Japan, Norway and US, Swiss Red Cross, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNMIN, UMN, WFP, WHO and World Vision. CONCERN, CCS Italy, INF, LWF, Mercy Corps, Merlin, and MSF-H, stand ready to mobilize resources if there are more demonstrated needs.

The World Food Programme, has received 1 million Euros (US\$ 1.36 million approx) from the German government and US\$ 400,000 (approx.) from the Australian government, and plans to deliver food in the affected areas from 15 August.

UNICEF from its regular funding has procured water treatment supplies and bed nets, and is looking for an additional US\$ 1.4 million to meet the demand of additional supplies, including those for nutritional support, emergency education kits and temporary shelter items.

Mobile medical camps are ongoing in many of the affected districts; the DPHOs being assisted by various I/NGOs, including ADRA and Bee Group.

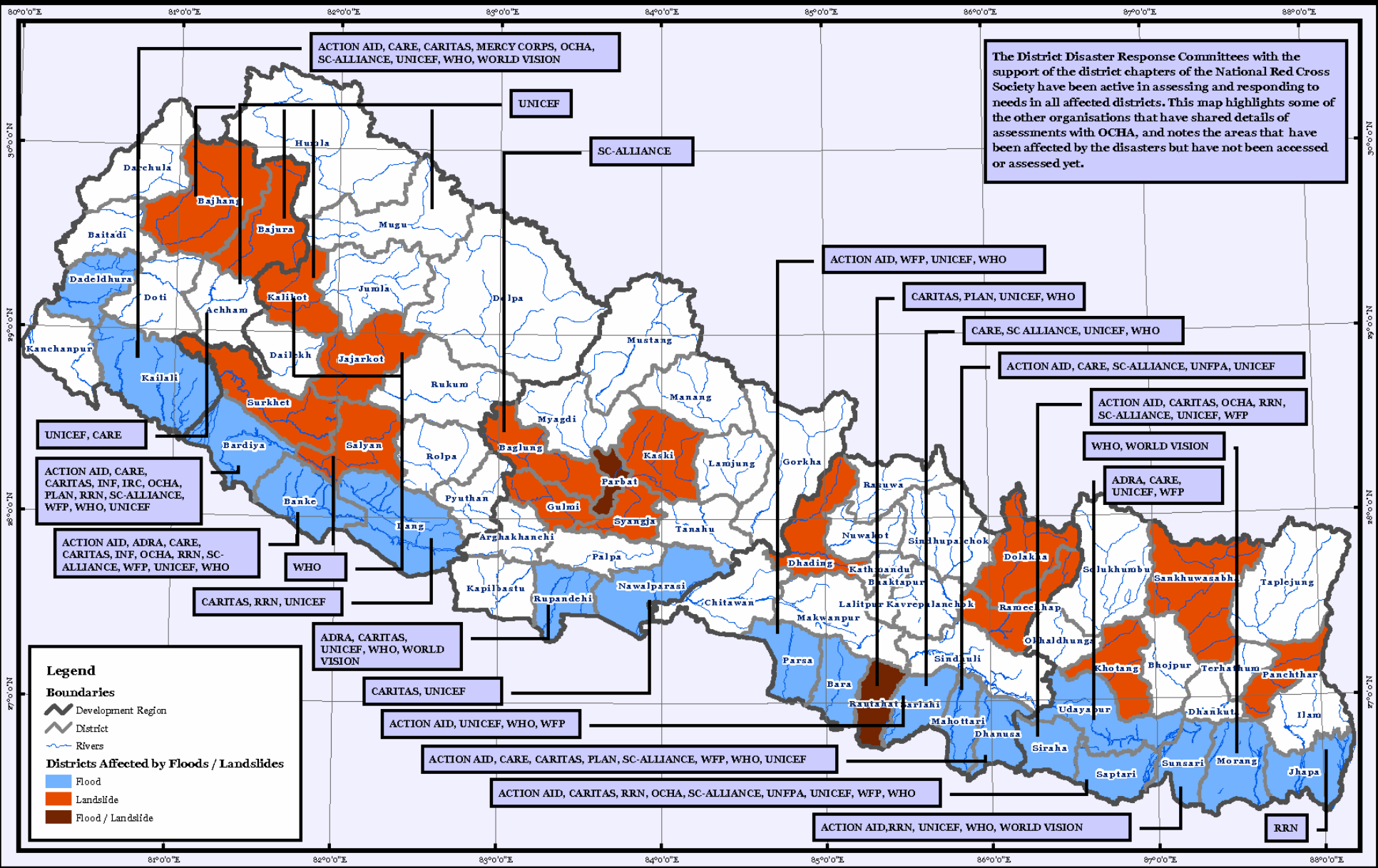
As logistics support to deliver emergency medical kits to Kalikot, UNDP has committed an additional US\$ 8,000.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) has issued a preliminary emergency appeal for CHF 2,320,856 (US\$ 1.93 million approx.) in cash, kind or services to deliver assistance to 20,000 families for six months.

The European Commission's Humanitarian Office (ECHO) is considering an emergency decision of up to 2 million euros. In order to contribute to face the floods crisis in the region, ECHO is in the process of taking a regional (Nepal-India-Bangladesh) emergency funding decision which will probably be official next week. The intervention will have three components: Food/NFI, Health and Accommodation (shelter material, watsan) for IDPs and victims of the floods and landslides.

The Danish government has approved 1 million Dansk Kroner for disaster relief to Nepal to be channelled through the Danish Red Cross. An additional Dansk Kroner 750,000 has also been allocated to the Danish Red Cross for flood relief. Also, the Danish embassy in Nepal is expecting to approve NRs. 3 million for disaster relief through the NRCS.

NEPAL: Assessments Conducted in Districts Affected by Floods and Landslides (10 July - 13 August, 2007)



The District Disaster Response Committees with the support of the district chapters of the National Red Cross Society have been active in assessing and responding to needs in all affected districts. This map highlights some of the other organisations that have shared details of assessments with OCHA, and notes the areas that have been affected by the disasters but have not been accessed or assessed yet.

Legend

- Boundaries**
 - Development Region
 - District
 - Rivers
- Districts Affected by Floods / Landslides**
 - Flood
 - Landslide
 - Flood / Landslide



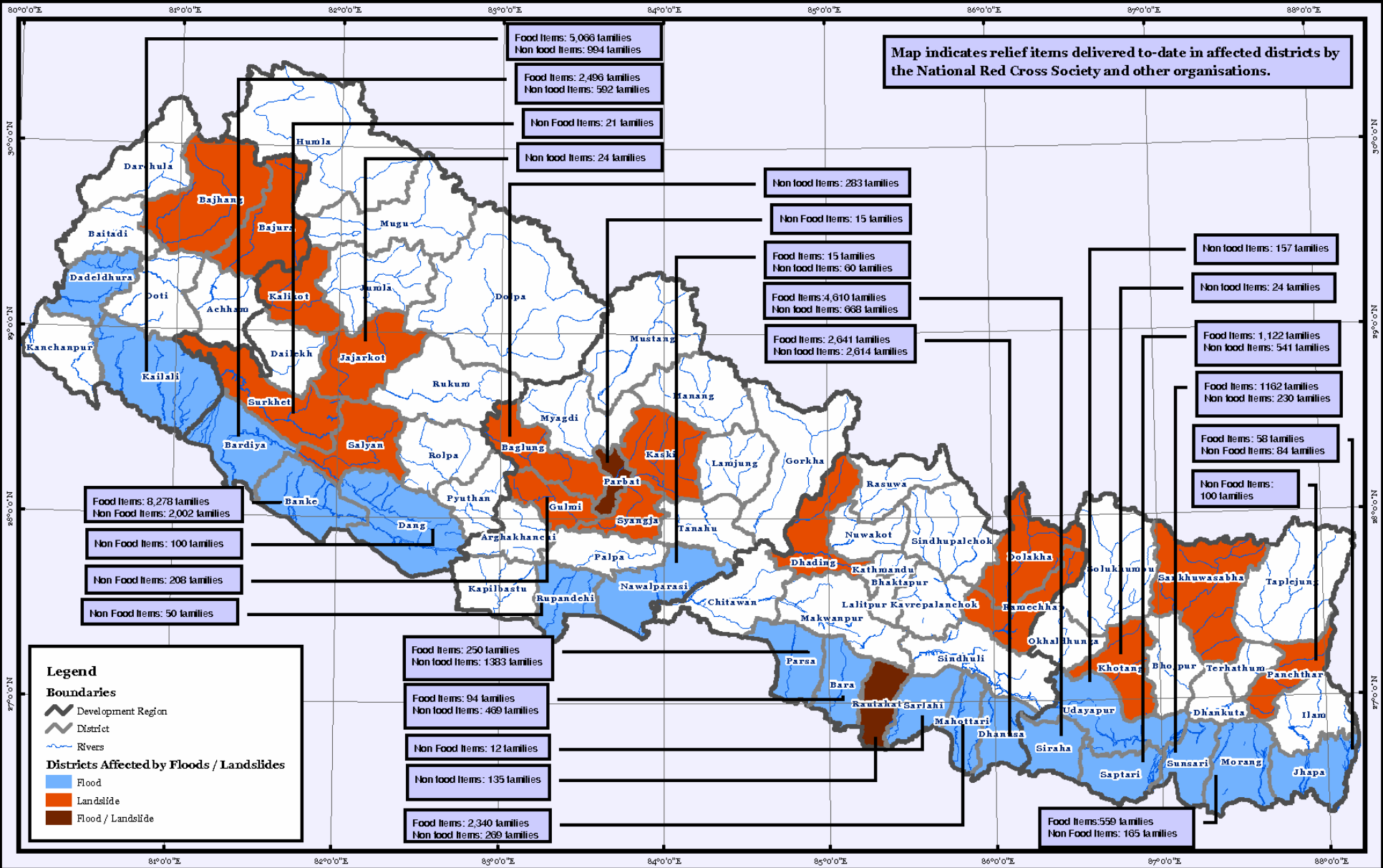
Map Produced by OCHA Nepal
 Data Source: National Red Cross Society, I/NGOs, UN and Nepal Government

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

Last Updated
 13 Aug, 2007



NEPAL: First Response in Districts Affected by Floods and Landslides (10 July – 13 August, 2007)



CARE Nepal issued an appeal to the CARE Emergency Group, as a result of which US\$ 100,000 has been committed to Nepal to assist in the NFI category.

The Save the Children Emergency Liaison Team (ELT) has declared flooding in South Asia as an ELT mandated emergency, and Save the Children US has been appointed as the lead agency for Nepal, and also the regional lead for South Asia for emergency response.

On 31 May, the Ministry of Home Affairs and the United Nations signed a memorandum of understanding which ensures expedited customs procedures in times of a large scale natural disaster or an emergency.

The separate table, originally included with this message (and available on the Nepal Information Platform), gives additional details on the response so far and highlights other potential response capacity as indicated by agencies to OCHA.

Coordination Efforts

As a follow up to the government's flood response meeting of 3 August which was held at the Ministry of Home Affairs in Kathmandu, a meeting was held at OCHA on 9 August. In this meeting, the modalities of an inter-agency assessment being facilitated by WFP and UNICEF, on food, nutrition, education and shelter needs were discussed. This assessment mission will be visiting 13 flood affected districts in the Terai.

The Kathmandu Contact Group meeting, scheduled for Wednesday 15 August at 3pm in the UN House Conference Room will cover continued coordination of the flood response.

Regional as well as district level coordination meetings continue, through the District Disaster Relief Committees, the sectoral lead agencies and OCHA.

In order to deal with logistics issues in the eastern Terai, ActionAid together with OCHA, UNICEF and NRCS are meeting on 14 August at 11.00 a.m. in Biratnagar to discuss how best to give further logistic support to NRCS.

All disaster related information is being compiled and updated on a new dedicated section of the Nepal Information Platform – www.un.org.np

Key coordination contacts:

Umesh Dhakal / Sanjeev Kafle
National Red Cross Society
Kathmandu
Tel: (01) 4273734

Paul Handley / Aditee Maskey
OCHA
Kathmandu
Tel: (01) 5548553

Greg Grimsich
OCHA, Nepalgunj
Tel: (081) 526238

Ram Luetel
OCHA, Biratnagar
Tel: (021) 538351