

EMERGENCY APPEAL

OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Nepal, Asia-Pacific| Flash Flood



Houses, roads, and markets are swept away by the flash flood impacting Rasuwa, Nuwakot, and Dhading Districts. (Photo credit: Nepal Red Cross Society)

Appeal No: MDRNP022	To be assisted: IFRC Secretariat: 50,000 people (10,000 households) Federation Wide: 200,000 people (40,000 households)	Appeal launched: 27/08/2026
Glide No: FF-2026-000162-NPL	DREF allocated: CHF 999,934	Disaster Categorisation: Orange
Operation start date: 27/08/2026	Operation end date: 31/08/2028	

IFRC Secretariat Funding requirement: CHF 18 million
Federation-wide funding requirement: CHF 25 million¹

¹ The Federation-wide funding requirement encompasses all financial support to be directed to the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) in response to the emergency. It includes the NRCS's domestic fundraising requests and the fundraising appeals of supporting Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies (CHF 7 million), as well as the funding ask of the IFRC secretariat (CHF 18 million). This comprehensive approach ensures that all available resources are mobilised to address the urgent humanitarian needs of affected communities.

TIMELINE



The Nepal Red Cross Society has expedited the provision of relief materials in all three affected districts in coordination with local authorities and security forces. (Photo credit: Fleur/IFRC)

26 August 2026: A massive surge of water enters the Bhote Koshi River bordering China. Floodwaters rapidly impact Timure, Rasuwaghadi, and Syafrubeshi towns in Rasuwa District and other towns further downstream in Nuwakot and Dhading Districts. The Government of Nepal issues evacuation orders and mobilises security forces. The Prime Minister's Office convenes a high-level emergency meeting to assess the evolving situation and coordinate response measures. Additionally, the government holds a second emergency meeting and declares three districts and 15 municipalities as crisis-affected areas for three months while expediting relief and rescue operations.

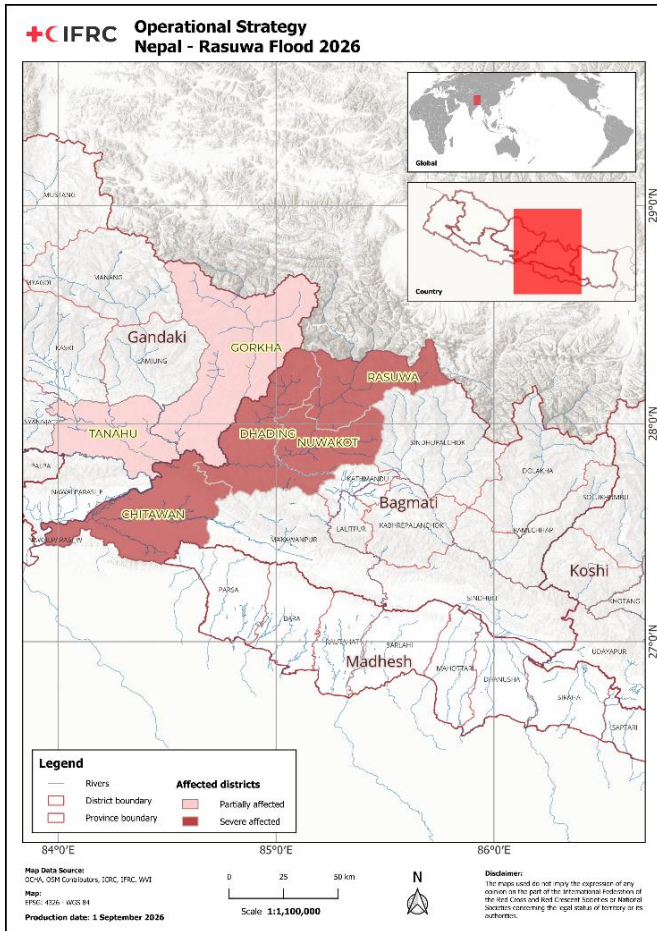
26 August 2026: The NRCS activates its EOC on 26 August 2026. The NRCS is supporting the response through the mobilisation of staff and volunteers, search and rescue support, first aid and health assistance, emergency relief distributions, shelter and household items, WASH support, and dead body management, including the recovery, safe handling, identification, and dignified management of deceased persons. Other humanitarian partners are supporting complementary food, shelter, health, WASH, and protection activities, while international assistance and funding continue to be mobilised.

26 August 2026: The IFRC allocates CHF 999,934 from its Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the immediate response, targeting 20,000 of the most affected people in Rasuwa, Nuwakot, and Dhading. A CHF 100,000 Emergency Advance Payment request is signed enabling immediate access to funding.

28 August 2026: The IFRC launches a Federation-wide Emergency Appeal of CHF 25 million (CHF 18 million secretariat) to provide early recovery and recovery support to approximately 28,000 people in three districts.

28 August 2026: Multiple IFRC surge role alerts are issued, and the Regional Operational Coordinator, Communications Coordinator, and WASH Coordinator arrive in Nepal to provide technical support.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT



On 26 August 2026, a major ice-rock avalanche occurred in the upper Bhote Koshi watershed near the China–Nepal border. An estimated 1km² of ice and rock detached from a slope, picking up loose proglacial sediments downstream and transforming into a highly mobile sediment- and water-laden debris flow. Initial assessments suggest that the resulting outburst flood in the upper watershed was an order of magnitude or more greater than normal seasonal flooding.

A powerful debris flow of sediment moved rapidly downstream, causing widespread destruction across Rasuwa, Nuwakot, and Dhading districts. Reports indicate that water levels in the Trishuli River rose up to nine metres above normal levels, inundating settlements and damaging critical infrastructure, including roads, bridges, schools, police stations, markets, health facilities, telecommunication towers, electricity poles, financial institutions, vehicles, hydrometeorological stations, customs infrastructure, and multiple hydropower projects. Timure border market was among the hardest-hit areas. The disaster has disrupted transportation along several key highways and roads, while authorities have restricted access

to river corridors due to ongoing risks. The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) issued a red alert for downstream districts, while the Government of Nepal convened an Emergency Disaster Council meeting chaired by the Prime Minister to coordinate search and rescue operations, damage assessments, and humanitarian response. Relief supplies have been mobilised from the Kathmandu Humanitarian Staging Area, with health response coordination led through national emergency mechanisms and partners. The scale of the physical damage, service disruption, and impacts on communities along the river corridor has created significant humanitarian needs requiring immediate relief and early recovery support.

Severity of the humanitarian conditions

1. Impact on infrastructure, accessibility, availability, quality, use, and awareness of goods and services.

The flash floods caused extensive damage to residential buildings, transport networks, bridges, electricity systems, telecommunications, water infrastructure, health facilities, schools, banks, hydrometeorological stations, and local markets, particularly along the Bhote Koshi and Trishuli river corridors. The loss of both housing structures and safe residential land presents a significant challenge for return and recovery. The destruction of key road corridors and 41 bridges along the Bhotekoshi-Trishuli river system has significantly reduced access to affected communities, delaying search and rescue operations, humanitarian assistance, needs assessments, and the restoration of essential services. Many communities remain isolated or can only be reached through alternative routes requiring lengthy travel, increasing transportation costs and limiting access to food, healthcare, clean water, education, communication, and markets. Damage to water supply and sanitation infrastructure has reduced the availability and quality of safe drinking water and hygiene services, with some estimates suggesting that up to 65,000 people are in urgent need of WASH support. This figure includes both people directly impacted by the disaster and those whose water and sanitation infrastructure has been impacted.

Telecommunications and electricity outages have constrained access to information, early warning messages, and awareness of available assistance and services. Power and telecommunications restoration is ongoing, however, the most impacted districts in the upper watershed are unlikely to regain access for some time.

Many households have been evacuated to 27 temporary evacuation centres in affected districts and Kathmandu. Approximately 4,000 people are currently residing in these centres and require urgent relief items for shelter, WASH, MHPSS, and primary health care. Additional households are believed to be staying temporarily with family members and will likely require further support over time.

2. Impact on physical and mental health and psychosocial well-being

The floods resulted in significant loss of life, injuries, missing persons, displacement, and destruction of homes and livelihoods. Families have experienced the loss of relatives, assets, income sources, livestock, and community infrastructure, increasing stress and uncertainty about the recovery. Displaced households living in temporary shelters, holding centres, schools, public buildings, or with host families face overcrowding, reduced privacy, and limited access to basic services, while contaminated water sources, damaged sanitation facilities, and disruptions to health services increase the risk of waterborne and communicable diseases. Psychological distress is also significant due to bereavement, displacement, uncertainty regarding missing family members, destruction of property, and concerns about future hazards. Up to 700 school-age children have been reported missing and an estimated 7,000 students have been directly affected across the region. Children face particular

risks when mental health and psychosocial needs are not addressed promptly, highlighting the urgent need for appropriate psychosocial support to prevent distress from developing into more severe conditions and ensure access to specialised MHPSS services. Children, older people, and those with chronic health conditions may require additional health, mental health, and psychosocial support.

3. Risks and vulnerabilities

The most vulnerable groups include women-headed households, pregnant and lactating women, children, older people, persons with disabilities, people with chronic illnesses, displaced families, and low-income households that have limited resources to recover from losses. Communities living along riverbanks and flood-prone areas remain exposed to secondary hazards, including further flooding, riverbank erosion, landslides, and potential impacts from upstream river blockages. Continued access constraints, damaged communications systems, and disrupted livelihoods increase protection risks, including family separation, child protection concerns, gender-based violence, trafficking, and exclusion from assistance. Households affected by shelter damage and the loss of productive assets or income are at heightened risk of prolonged recovery, increased debt, and negative coping mechanisms if assistance is delayed. Those living in destroyed or uninhabitable homes face exposure to cold weather, inadequate privacy and protection, and unsafe living conditions, particularly where temporary shelter options are limited. Households with insecure, disputed, or undocumented land tenure may face difficulties accessing shelter assistance and reconstruction support, increasing the risk of displacement, exclusion, or settlement in unsafe locations.

CAPACITIES AND RESPONSE

1. National Society response capacity

1.1 National Society capacity and ongoing response

The Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) is one of the country's largest humanitarian organisations, with more than 89,000 volunteers and a presence across 77 District chapters, 753 Palika chapters and seven provincial chapters. It is recognised as an auxiliary to the public authorities in humanitarian response.

The NRCS has more than 10,000 volunteers trained in first aid, WASH, health, MHPSS, assessment, and relief management throughout the country, and has been pre-positioned 30,000 sets of essential household items in

its 12 warehouses. The DREF allocation from the IFRC provides significant support to accelerate field-level response efforts.

The National Society has activated its Emergency Operation Centre and deployed emergency response teams to affected areas to provide lifesaving assistance. The NRCS is coordinating with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) on humanitarian response requirements. In Nepal, the NRCS co-leads the Shelter Cluster, which was activated 27 August and is currently coordinating 21 agencies in Nuwakot district to support more comprehensive assessments.

NRCS relief teams are delivering essential emergency supplies, including drinking water, tarpaulins, mattresses, blankets, drinking water, first aid kits, and body bags, while additional stocks remain ready for deployment. Additionally, the NRCS is providing mental health and psychosocial support, restoring family links, blood bank, body transfer, and ambulance services. The NRCS hotline has been activated, with volunteers actively responding to feedback. Rasuwa, Nuwakot, and Dhading district chapters are providing relief materials to affected communities and mobilising volunteers on the ground. The NRCS has mobilised 30 trained volunteers to conduct initial rapid assessments across all affected districts and is rapidly scaling its volunteer workforce. At least 20 national response team-trained staff have also been deployed to support NRCS district chapters with immediate relief support. The NRCS has pre-positioned emergency relief stocks, including tarpaulins, blankets, mattresses, and ropes, sufficient to support up to 30,000 households, with 12 strategically located warehouses across the country to facilitate rapid deployment.

NRCS district chapters have provided meals, food items, and bottled water to affected populations in the affected districts. In addition, NRCS headquarters has dispatched 1,156 tarpaulins, 1,050 blankets, 440 mattresses, 220 hygiene kits, 760 dignity kits, 55 first aid boxes, 25 stretchers, 1,930 body bags, 9,000 N95 masks, 225 buckets, 70 toilets, 125 mosquito nets, and 30 solar lights.

1.2 Capacity and response at the national level

The Government of Nepal at the federal, provincial, and local levels has established command posts in the National Emergency Operation Centre and is coordinating the overall response. The government has deployed expert search and rescue teams, with support from foreign governments, and is mobilising all available Nepalese Army and private helicopters for search and rescue operations. More than NPR 5 billion (approximately CHF 26 million) has already been donated to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund. The government is also managing warehouses at five strategic locations, including the Humanitarian Staging Area (HSA) at Kathmandu Airport. All relief items donated by foreign governments have been pre-positioned at the HSA as well as in Bidur Municipality, Nuwakot District. The Department of Roads is mobilising heavy equipment for debris clearance and to open alternative routes into Rasuwa District. However, heavy equipment, including Bailey bridge equipment, is limited, and restoring routes across the Bhote Koshi River will remain challenging. UN agencies and other humanitarian organisations are allocating funds and mobilising relief materials to affected areas; however, limited access routes are constraining relief and recovery efforts.

2. International capacity and response

2.1 Red Cross Red Crescent Movement capacity and response

IFRC membership

The NRCS is drawing on the complementary capacities of the IFRC Secretariat and Participating National Societies to strengthen the quality, scale, and timeliness of the response. The support package combines operational coordination, sectoral expertise, surge capacity, planning and reporting support, financial assistance, and in-kind relief items.

Currently, five in-country members, the American Red Cross, British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, and Swiss Red Cross, are supporting the NRCS through various projects and long-term partnerships. The IFRC and members have established a pool of domestic response personnel and maintain a practice of developing a common response plan and sharing resources for major emergencies. Members have also mobilised dedicated response funds, including the American Red Cross Quick Action Fund, British Red Cross response funds, Danish and Finnish Red Cross Crisis Modifiers, and Swiss Red Cross response funding. The

British Red Cross has activated its emergency fund to support cash and voucher assistance (CVA). Nine surge alerts have been issued, with an Operations Manager, WASH Coordinator, Communications Coordinator, and Membership Coordinator deployed, while SIMS has already begun providing remote support. A Health Coordinator, Supply Chain Coordinator, and Shelter Cluster Coordinator have also selected. In addition, the APRO regional team, including the Regional Operations Coordinator, Health Coordinator, WASH Coordinator, and Communications Coordinator, is supporting the operation pending the arrival of surge personnel.

Partner roles, commitments, and geographic coverage will be maintained through a common Federation-wide contribution map and updated as needs, funding, and operational arrangements evolve. National Societies providing bilateral assistance will retain their respective accountability requirements while aligning their activities, monitoring information, and results reporting with the NRCS-led Operational Strategy.

ICRC

The NRCS and IFRC are maintaining regular information-sharing with the ICRC to ensure complementarity action and adherence to Movement coordination arrangements. While the current operation is led by the NRCS, the ICRC's contribution is focusing on areas linked to its established expertise and support to the National Society, particularly in the area of Restoring Family Links (RFL) and Management of the Dead (MoTD), in response to the humanitarian needs arising from the large number of missing, deceased, and separated family members. The ICRC has also maintained a supply chain for body bags through its delegation in India. NRCS volunteers have previously received support from the ICRC, including training and technical advice on RFL and MoTD, and the ICRC is currently supporting the NRCS in its response. This existing capacity can be leveraged, as required by the authorities and affected communities, to address identified needs. To strengthen NRCS actions on RFL and MoTD, the ICRC has mobilised a surge team, including forensic and RFL specialists, from its regional delegation in Delhi.

2.2 International Humanitarian Stakeholder capacity and response

The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) mechanism has been active since day one, coordinating with various clusters. UN agencies are supporting cluster leads, including line ministries, in the response using in-country capacities. Other active UN agencies include UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO, and UNDP. The NRCS and IFRC are co-leading the Nepal Shelter Cluster, while other organisations such as Save the Children, People in Need, Plan International, and World Vision, are providing support with clean water and the distribution of hygiene and baby kits.

In terms of donor support, the Government of India has provided at least 20 tons of relief items to Nepal, while the EU/ECHO has conducted a field assessment of the affected areas.

3. Gaps in the response

Rapid assessments indicate urgent needs for emergency shelter, safe drinking water, healthcare, sanitation, psychosocial support, cash assistance, debris clearance, and restoration of access to isolated communities. Women-headed households, pregnant and lactating women, children, older people, persons with disabilities, people with chronic illnesses, displaced families, migrants, and households that have lost income earners face heightened vulnerability due to displacement, loss of livelihoods, damaged homes, and disruption of essential services.

Protection risks are significant. Overcrowded shelters and holding centres, family separation, communication outages, and prolonged displacement have increased risks of child protection concerns, gender-based violence, trafficking, psychosocial distress, and exclusion from assistance. Women and girls face additional challenges related to privacy, dignity, and menstrual hygiene management, while persons with disabilities and older people may face barriers accessing aid and services.

Assessment findings remain incomplete due to severe access constraints, washed-away roads and bridges, communication blackouts, difficult terrain, and the large number of isolated communities. These challenges have limited field visits, delayed verification of casualties, displacement figures, housing damage, and sectoral needs, creating significant information gaps. The dignified management of human remains is a major concern, with more than 1,000 bodies reportedly recovered, mostly in Chitwan District further downstream.

While shelter, search and rescue, and relief distributions are receiving substantial attention from government and humanitarian actors, rapid assessments identify gaps in Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI), Mental

Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), RFL, Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), MotD, and inclusive support services for vulnerable groups. The NRCS is proposing targeted interventions in these areas, which remain under-resourced despite increasing risks and are essential to ensuring a safe, dignified, and inclusive response for the most vulnerable populations.

OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS

The response is being implemented in a highly challenging operational environment. Extensive damage to roads, bridges, and transport corridors along the Bhote Koshi and Trishuli river systems has constrained access to affected communities, particularly in Rasuwa and downstream districts. Several communities remain isolated, while telecommunication and electricity outages continue to affect information sharing, coordination, and assessment efforts. Ongoing monsoon conditions, risks of additional flooding, landslides, and river blockages further complicate humanitarian access and pose safety risks to responders and affected populations. Significant information gaps remain regarding the full extent of displacement, damages, and priority needs, requiring continuous assessments and adaptive planning. Significant portions of settlements, residential plots, and infrastructure along the flood pathways have been swept away or rendered unsafe. Identifying safe locations for temporary and transitional shelter, as well as suitable locations for longer-term housing reconstruction, will therefore require site-level hazard, land, access, and structural assessments. Shelter solutions will avoid areas exposed to flooding, riverbank erosion, landslides, and other secondary hazards, and will be aligned with government guidance and relevant technical standards. In addition, winter conditions are expected from October onward, and many affected areas of Rasuwa District are located along the snowline, creating additional challenges.

To mitigate these challenges, the NRCS, supported by the IFRC, is utilising its extensive branch and volunteer network to maintain a presence in the affected areas while facilitating local-level coordination. The operation is strengthening coordination with government authorities, the NDRRMA, humanitarian partners, and district emergency mechanisms to improve access and information sharing. Surge personnel have been deployed to support operational coordination, communications, and technical programming, while alternative logistics arrangements and local procurement approaches are being explored to overcome access constraints. Continued monitoring of weather conditions, access routes, and security considerations will inform operational adjustments and ensure the safe delivery of assistance to affected communities.

FEDERATION-WIDE APPROACH

The Emergency Appeal is part of a Federation-wide approach based on the response priorities of the Nepal Red Cross Society and in consultation with all Federation members contributing to the response. The approach, reflected in this Operational Strategy, will ensure linkages between all response activities (including bilateral and domestically funded activities) and will assist in leveraging the capacities of all members of the IFRC network in the country to maximise the collective humanitarian impact.

A dedicated membership coordination function will support the NRCS and IFRC in mapping contributions, maintaining partner dialogue, identifying gaps, promoting complementarity, and aligning bilateral and multilateral support with NRCS priorities and this Operational Strategy. Federation-wide contributions will be tracked and reflected through planning, mobilisation, and reporting products to strengthen collective accountability, transparency, informed decision-making, and appropriate recognition of membership support.

Membership support is already being mobilised through complementary multilateral, bilateral, in-kind, technical, and surge contributions from across the IFRC network. Several National Societies have confirmed or expressed interest in supporting the operation, including the Indian Red Cross Society, Singapore Red Cross, Thai Red Cross Society, New Zealand Red Cross, British Red Cross, Maldivian Red Crescent, Korean National Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Hong Kong Red Cross Branch of the Red Cross Society of China, Australian Red Cross, Irish Red Cross, Malaysian Red Crescent Society, and Philippine Red Cross, among others. Multiple partners have also engaged through Federation coordination mechanisms to explore funding, technical support, surge deployments, and operational assistance.

In-country IFRC membership include the American, British, Danish, Finnish, and Swiss Red Cross Societies, alongside the IFRC. These contributions will be coordinated through established Federation-wide mechanisms to maximise complementarity, avoid duplication, address identified operational gaps, and ensure coherence with the Operational Strategy and the evolving needs of affected communities.

Through this Federation-wide approach, the IFRC network will leverage its collective strengths to support a coordinated, locally led and people-centred response, combining the NRCS's extensive local presence with the technical, operational, surge, and resource mobilisation capacities available across the wider membership. This approach will support effective delivery of humanitarian assistance while strengthening the leadership, operational capacity, and longer-term resilience of the NRCS.

OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Vision

The operation aims to address the immediate humanitarian needs and recovery challenges caused by the Rasuwa flash floods through timely, coordinated, and inclusive assistance that enables affected communities to restore their safety, dignity, livelihoods, and resilience.

The Emergency Appeal will support approximately 50,000 people affected by the devastating flash floods through a phased response that addresses immediate humanitarian needs while laying the foundation for longer-term recovery and resilience. As the scale of the disaster has become apparent, and while assessments are still ongoing, the Nepal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) has indicated that [approximately 1.6 million people](#) have been affected by the disaster, with Rasuwa, Dhading and Nuwakot identified as the worst-affected districts and Gorkha and Chitwan as moderately affected.

The operation will prioritise the most vulnerable groups, including women and single-headed households, pregnant and lactating women, children, older people, persons with disabilities, displaced households, and those who have lost their primary sources of income. The Government of Nepal has specifically requested that the NRCS support critical protection initiatives for unaccompanied minors and counter human trafficking.

During the relief phase, the NRCS and IFRC will focus on providing emergency shelter materials, essential household items, multipurpose cash assistance, volunteer mobilisation, support for debris clearance, health and WASH support, psychosocial services, and protection interventions. Efforts will also prioritise restoring access to safe water, basic services, and information, while supporting search and rescue, first aid, restoring family links, and clarifying the fate of the missing, and community engagement activities.

As the situation stabilises, the operation will transition towards recovery interventions, including support for permanent shelter solutions, livelihood recovery through conditional cash assistance, rehabilitation of water systems, community health services, and strengthened disaster preparedness and early warning systems. Throughout the response, the operation will integrate protection, gender, and inclusion, community engagement and accountability, climate adaptation, and risk reduction approaches. The strategy is underpinned by strong coordination with government authorities, humanitarian partners, the Humanitarian Country Team, and the wider IFRC network, ensuring a Federation-wide response that strengthens the capacity of the NRCS while maximising the collective humanitarian impact.

Anticipated climate-related risks and adjustments in the operation

In the short-term, the most significant hazard is the risk of a secondary flood resulting from the growing upstream barrier lake formed by the landslide that triggered the Bhote Koshi flash flood, as well as the ongoing retreat of glaciers. Technical assessments indicate that the lake continues to expand and may breach, creating further downstream flooding risks for communities, responders, and critical infrastructure along the Bhote Koshi, Trishuli, and Narayani River corridors. Ongoing monsoon rainfall also increases the likelihood of riverbank erosion, localised flooding, landslides, debris flows, and further damage to already weakened transport and utility infrastructure. There is also significant risk of sediment remobilisation along the river course, with each surge in the flow rate potentially mobilising deposited sediments and eroding loosely consolidated debris from the previous flow. This could cause the river to overtop its banks and overflow again in some areas.

Over the medium to longer-term, climate change is expected to increase the frequency and severity of glacial, snow, and high-mountain hazards, including ice and rock avalanches, landslide-dammed lakes, glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs), and extreme flood events. Communities, livelihoods, settlements, hydropower infrastructure, and transport corridors located along river valleys are likely to face heightened exposure to cascading climate and disaster risks.

The operation will integrate risk reduction and climate adaptation measures throughout the response and recovery. Assistance will be guided by hazard monitoring and early warning information, with evacuation planning, safe assembly areas, and community risk communication strengthened throughout the operation. Site selection will be informed by hazard mapping, community-level risk assessment and technical verification, including consideration of access, drainage, water and sanitation services, land availability, tenure, and proximity to essential services. Where return to the original site is unsafe or no longer feasible, the operation will work with authorities and affected communities to identify safe and appropriate alternatives. All temporary and transitional shelter support will include risk assessments to choose the best available locations close to livelihoods and services, while acknowledging that most locations are medium to high risk. Structural safety assessments, risk-informed recovery planning, and “build back safer” principles will be applied to reduce future disaster risk and ensure that response activities do not increase exposure to climate-related hazards.

Targeting

1. People to be assisted

The operation aims to reach an estimated 10,000 families (50,000 people) across the affected districts with priority given to those who are most vulnerable and least able to recover on their own. Given the scale of the disaster and the diversity of needs, specific targeting and selection criteria will guide implementation to ensure that assistance is delivered equitably and reaches those most at risk.

Specific targeting and selection criteria will apply for different activities. The criteria for selecting the targeted population are as follows:

- Households whose homes are destroyed or assessed as unsafe or uninhabitable and who do not have access to an adequate alternative shelter solution
- Households headed by children below 18 years and older persons above 65 years of age
- Households headed by women, older people, and single women
- Death of an earning member of the family due to the flash flood
- Households with pregnant and lactating women
- Households with members with disabilities or chronic illnesses
- Persons at risk of SGBV and SGBV survivors
- Low income community members displaced by the disaster
- Migrants and/or stateless people who are unable to access other support due to legal or social barriers
- Marginalised and disadvantage groups affected by the flash flood

2. Considerations for protection, gender, and inclusion and community engagement and accountability

The integration of protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) considerations into all sectors of the operation is essential to ensure that the response is not only effective but also equitable and respectful of human dignity. By embedding PGI principles across relief, recovery, and resilience-building activities, the operation can deliver a truly integrated response that protects lives and strengthens communities. The approach outlined for the Nepal Red Cross Society operation includes several key elements:

- Awareness against sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV): Prioritising the dissemination of messages to raise awareness against SGBV against women, children, and other vulnerable groups. This involves creating and spreading information that educates and informs communities about the risk, prevention, and support available for SGBV.
- Ensuring the IFRC's Dignity, Access, Participation, and Safety (DAPS) Framework is followed.
- Establishing feedback mechanisms: Setting up feedback mechanisms in districts to listen and respond to communities and ensure quality programming. This involves mobilising volunteers to engage with community members, gather feedback and respond appropriately, with support from the community engagement and accountability (CEA) team at NRCS headquarters.
- Mobilising volunteers for health and hygiene promotion: Volunteers will not only conduct health and hygiene promotion activities and information dissemination but also engage in risk communication initiatives by collecting feedback from communities and ensuring that the response remains adaptive and responsive to their evolving needs.

PLANNED OPERATIONS

INTEGRATED ASSISTANCE

 Shelter, Housing, and Settlements	Female > 18: 10,200	Female < 18: 15,300	CHF 8,120,000
	Male > 18: 9,800	Male < 18: 14,700	Total target: 50,000
Objective:	Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being, and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions		
Priority Actions:	Emergency phase • Procurement, distribution, and monitoring of essential household items including tarpaulins, blankets, mattresses, ropes, and other context-appropriate items, based on assessed needs and the specific requirements of affected households • Replenishment of critical stocks of household items at NRCS headquarters and District Offices. Construction of transitional shelters for the most at-risk affected people through a cash-based modality, following Government of Nepal guidance and Sphere standards, while mainstreaming PGI elements. • Support debris clearing in affected areas, alongside cash-for-work programmes. Recovery phase • Undertake detailed damage, structural safety, and site assessments to identify appropriate shelter and housing recovery options. • Support the repair, retrofitting, and rebuilding of permanent houses through the provision of CVA and technical support on		

	safe construction techniques as part of longer-term recovery efforts. • Provide 1,450 households with cash grants of NPR 500,000 (approximately CHF 2,700) for safe house reconstruction. • Mobilise and train volunteers and community facilitators to support shelter-related awareness, PASSA/community risk reduction, safe building practices, community engagement, feedback, and hotline services. • Disseminate safe sheltering messaging through volunteers to support “build back safer” strategies. • Support the training of local workers in masonry. • Ensure technical oversight, coordination with authorities and partners, field supervision, and quality assurance throughout implementation. • Monitor the distribution, use, and satisfaction of shelter assistance and identify corrective actions.
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 Livelihoods	Female > 18:	Female < 18: 597	CHF 262,000
	Male > 18:	Male < 18: 573	Total target: 1,170²
Objective:	Provide livelihood support to targeted households, based on the selection criteria to help restore income sources lost due to the flash flood		
Priority Actions:	Emergency phase • Cash for work to assist with community cleanup. Recovery phase • Skills training focused on trades and small business ventures, such as plumbing, soapmaking, tailoring, mobile phone repair, electrical work, and high value crop cultivation, as well as on-farm and off-farm livelihood activities and small businesses in affected areas. • Cash-for-work (CfW) activities aimed at providing immediate income opportunities to vulnerable households while contributing to community recovery and resilience. Through these schemes, community members will be engaged in priority recovery activities, including debris and sediment clearance, rehabilitation of community infrastructure, repair of access roads, drainage systems and irrigation channels, restoration of agricultural lands, and implementation of community-based disaster risk reduction and mitigation measures. Cash-for-work interventions will help affected households meet their immediate needs while accelerating the		

² These are initial estimates and may change following further assessments

	restoration of essential services, productive capacities, and community assets. Conditional cash grants for business startup support; grants will enable affected households to restore and diversify their livelihood activities, replace lost productive assets, restart small businesses, and strengthen agricultural and livestock production according to household recovery plans and local market opportunities. Where feasible, cash assistance will be complemented by technical training and linkages to local services to support sustainable recovery and resilience.
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 Multi-purpose Cash	Female > 18: 6,120	Female < 18: 9,180	CHF 1,096,000
	Male > 18: 5,880	Male < 18: 8,820	Total target: 30,000
Objective:	Provide timely and dignified cash assistance to affected households, enabling them to address their basic needs in alignment with their priorities, while simultaneously strengthening local markets and supporting early recovery		
Priority Actions:	Emergency phase: - Coordinate with national and local authorities as well as the cash working group on the cash modalities to be applied based on a common understanding of the market situation. Integrate key findings supporting the feasibility and appropriateness of cash, including implications of reported access, telecommunications, market, and financial-service constraints. - Conduct targeting activities, registration, and verification in the three most-affected districts and Kathmandu. - Distribute up to two tranches of unconditional multi-purpose cash grant (MPCG) of NPR 15,000 to cover the emergency needs of affected populations across sectors for one month. The value of the grants is based on the minimum expenditure basket (MEB) for one month as agreed by the inter-agency cash working groups at the country level. - Conduct monitoring (market, price, and impact) throughout the intervention timeframe. - Conduct post-distribution monitoring (PDM) to assess the cash intervention. - Support the implementation of cash grants for transitional shelter, support for MHPSS, and cash for WASH.		

HEALTH AND CARE INCLUDING WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH)

(MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT/COMMUNITY HEALTH)

 Health and Care <i>(Mental Health and Psychosocial Support/Community Health/Medical Services)</i>	Female > 18: 10,200	Female < 18: 15,300	CHF 938,000
	Male > 18: 9,800	Male < 18: 14,700	Total target: 50,000
Objective:	Address risks to health, mental health, and psychosocial well-being arising from both the crisis and underlying health capacity and vulnerabilities among the affected population		
Priority Actions:	Emergency Phase Mental Health and Psychosocial Support: • Conduct a comprehensive MHPSS assessment in five affected districts and Kathmandu. • Deploy MHPSS-trained volunteers to implement basic psychosocial support activities such as psychological first aid, awareness raising and information sharing, and ensure referrals to focused PSS, psychological support, and specialised mental health care, including for families of the bereaved and missing. • Coordinate with other MHPSS service providers and develop appropriate referral pathways for both adults and children. • Integrate MHPSS in child friendly spaces at evacuation centres and temporary shelter settlements; link services with appropriate safeguarding and linkages to referral networks. • Provide training on PFA to frontline responders as well as access to specialised mental health support for staff and volunteers engaged in the response. • Support the creation of MHPSS corners in schools and community centres with dedicated volunteers and materials for up to 24 months. Community Health: • Implement community health activities through volunteers and in partnership with local health workers. • Deploy primary health care resources. The NRCS will deploy its Red Cross Emergency Clinic (RCEC) for up to three months in the affected areas. Medical Services: • Deploy First Aid Responders (FAR) and ambulances to provide pre-hospital care in the initial days after the flash flood. Mobilise the Red Cross Emergency Clinic in coordination with health authorities.		

	Recovery Phase Community Health: - Continue implementing community health activities through volunteers and in partnership with local health workers. Community-based MHPSS: - Continue MHPSS activities for communities and groups through volunteers and community members. Re-establishment of Pre-hospital Care: - Deploy ten pre-hospital ambulances to the affected areas for up to 24 months. - Increase emergency health stockpiles, including PPE, medical equipment, consumables, cholera and dengue testing kits, repellents, and IEC materials.
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 Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Female > 18: 10,200	Female < 18: 15,300	CHF 2,596,000
	Male > 18: 9,800	Male < 18: 14,700	Total target: 50,000
Objective:	Ensure the provision of safe water, adequate sanitation, and promote effective hygiene practices among populations affected by the flash flood in targeted communities, thereby reducing the risk of waterborne diseases and improving overall health outcomes.		
Priority Actions:	Emergency Phase - Promote good hygiene practices through the mobilisation of volunteers. - Distribute hygiene kits to affected populations. - Construct emergency toilets using a cash for latrines modality. - Improve or replace household water storage facilities. - Provide safe water through emergency water tankers and install water tanks at displacement sites, including holding centres, host communities, and transitional centres. - Implement immediate water supply rehabilitation interventions, including through the deployment of a water system rehabilitation (WSR) ERU team. Recovery Phase - Enhance sanitation facilities through toilet construction in communities and schools, applying inclusive and child-friendly approaches.		

- Rehabilitate water schemes based on identified needs and in collaboration with local authorities.
- Conduct hygiene promotion sessions for disease prevention and improved hygiene practices.

PROTECTION AND PREVENTION

(PROTECTION, GENDER, AND INCLUSION (PGI), COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY (CEA), MIGRATION, RISK REDUCTION, CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND RECOVERY, ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, EDUCATION)

 Protection, Gender, and Inclusion	Female > 18: 10,200	Female < 18: 15,300	CHF 372,000
	Male > 18: 9,800	Male < 18: 14,700	Total target: 50,000
Objective:	Ensure protection and safety by strengthening existing protection capacities within affected communities and ensuring that all facilities, goods, and services are accessible, safe, and dignified for all backgrounds		
Priority Actions:	• Conduct child safeguarding risk analysis across all sectors. • Distribute dignified hygiene kits to women and adolescent girls. • Distribute assistive devices, including hearing aids, urinary catheters, wheelchairs, half crutches and full crutches, and glasses, based on identified needs and in partnership with specialised organisations. • Support protection-related referral services identified in close cooperation with existing social services. • Conduct community messaging and violence prevention campaigns on SGBV, violence against children, and human trafficking. • Provide PSEA messaging, as well as messaging on misconduct and related reporting mechanisms, at all distributions. • Establish child-friendly spaces in collaboration with education facilities and evacuation centres. • Mainstream PGI considerations in the operation through the DAPS framework, including through orientation sessions. • Establish relevant safeguarding mechanisms to ensure a do-no-harm approach, including conducting child safeguarding risk assessments and ensuring that all staff and volunteers receive training and sign the Code of Conduct. • Provide RFL services to the separated family members and families of missing persons as a result of the flooding. • Support the Government of Nepal in enhancing Management of the Dead (MotD).		

 Community Engagement and Accountability	Female > 18: 10,200	Female < 18: 25,500	CHF 106,000
	Male > 18: 9,800	Male < 18: 24,500	Total target: 50,000
Objective:	Comprehensively integrate CEA into the response, ensuring that the needs, priorities, and context of affected communities are thoroughly understood and addressed in a collaborative and participatory way		
Priority Actions:	• Support existing feedback mechanisms in all areas covered by the operation, including through existing NRCS systems, such as the hotline, radio, and social media channels. • Analyse feedback gathered at the district and headquarters levels to inform operational decision-making. • Engage community members at the district and Palika levels to inform response and recovery needs. • Implement risk communication and community engagement initiatives at scale across all sectors of intervention.		

 Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	Female > 18: 10,200	Female < 18: 15,300	CHF 722,000
	Male > 18: 9,800	Male < 18: 14,700	Total target: 50,000
Objective:	Reduce the vulnerability of affected people to disasters and the impacts of climate change, while strengthening their capacity to cope with and recover from future disasters		
Priority Actions:	• Strengthen disaster risk management, preparedness, and response capacities of local government through training, simulation drills, development of SoPs, and plans, etc. • Conduct Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (EVCAs) for six priority communities. • Support the enhancement of multi-hazard early warning systems and anticipatory action in affected communities, integrating existing community-based early warning systems.		

 Education	Female > 18: 2,448	Female < 18: 0	CHF 178,000
	Male > 18: 2,552	Male < 18: 0	Total target: 5,000

Objective:	Support the continuation of education for affected populations, especially children and young people and vulnerable and marginalised groups
Priority Actions:	Emergency Phase: Provide school kits to the most vulnerable school-aged children.

Enabling approaches

 National Society Strengthening	Female > 18: N/A	Female < 18: N/A	CHF 2,590,000
	Male > 18: N/A	Male < 18: N/A	Total target: N/A
Objective:	Contribute to strengthening the NRCS at the district chapter and National Headquarters levels while improving service delivery at the community level		
Priority Actions:	- Provide orientation on Red Cross Red Crescent principles, as well as IFRC/NRCS policies and tools to new volunteers and staff mobilised by the operation. - Establish clear roles between National Headquarters, provinces, and chapters; include branch leadership in response decision-making; and strengthen delegation of authority. - Promote staff and volunteer well-being through self-care and team-care activities. - Integrate PGI into branch plans, SOPs, training, and future preparedness activities. - Support the organisation's Preparedness for Effective Response, focusing on logistics, information management, volunteer management, domestic resource mobilisation, communications, and compliance functions such as finance, HR management, PMER, and audit. - Update contingency plans, SOPs, response structures, and preparedness plans based on lessons and experience from the response. - Develop Branch Development Plans based on lessons from the response and establish minimum standards for functional chapters.		
 Coordination and Partnerships	Female > 18: N/A	Female < 18: N/A	CHF 92,957
	Male > 18: N/A	Male < 18: N/A	Total target: N/A

Objective:	Strengthen coordination within the IFRC Membership and within the Movement to enhance technical and operational complementarity and cooperation with external partners
Priority Actions:	Membership Coordination - Promote an IFRC-wide approach to the operation through joint needs assessments, a unified planning process, and a common M&E framework. - Establish a single response structure for the operation, with the NRCS at the centre and support from the IFRC Network to address gaps, including the deployment of surge capacity where existing national resources across the network are insufficient. - Ensure joint visibility and humanitarian diplomacy as integral components of the operation. Engagement with external partners - Leverage the unique positioning of the NRCS within the national response system, with close collaboration at all levels and across sectors. - Maintain regular engagement in the HCT mechanism and coordination platforms. The NRCS, along with the IFRC, co-leads the Nepal Shelter Cluster and is a key contributor to many other clusters. The IFRC ensures representation of the collective footprint in strategic meetings, alongside NRCS leadership, as relevant. - Continue engagement with the diplomatic community and development partners, based on the IFRC Status Agreement in the country. Movement Cooperation - Regular coordination among Movement components to promote shared analysis of the humanitarian situation, alignment of priorities, and complementarity of action, ensuring that available Movement capacities and resources are mobilised in support of the NRCS-led response.

 Shelter Cluster Coordination	Female > 18: N/A	Female < 18: N/A	CHF 176,043
	Male > 18: N/A	Male < 18: N/A	Total target: N/A
Objective:	Support a comprehensive, quality, coherent, and consistent Shelter and Settlements response		
Priority Actions:	In its capacity as the Nepal Shelter Cluster co-lead, the NRCS and IFRC will ensure ongoing support to the Shelter Cluster lead, the		

	Department of Urban Development and Building Codes under the Ministry of Infrastructure Development. • Coordinate the shelter and settlements response to ensure effective, complementary, harmonised, and accountable assistance. • Provide analysis and information to support strategic decision-making and prioritisation. • Develop and oversee sector strategies and plans aligned with humanitarian objectives. • Advocate for the shelter and settlement needs and rights of affected populations. • Monitor response performance and results and support continuous improvements. • Build preparedness and response capacities for current and future crises.
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 IFRC Secretariat Services	Female > 18: N/A	Female < 18: N/A	CHF 746,000
	Male > 18: N/A	Male < 18: N/A	Total target: N/A
Objective:	Provide comprehensive support to the NRCS in its relief operations, ensuring compliance with relevant standards, effective operational management, and enhanced visibility of its actions		
Priority Actions:	• Procurement: Support the NRCS in procuring the required relief items for immediate distribution, replenishment of dispatched stocks, or prepositioning efforts. • Security: Provide security services to the NRCS and IFRC membership as per the Country Delegation mechanism. • The IFRC's security plans will apply to all IFRC personnel throughout the operation. Area-specific Security Risk Assessments will be conducted for any operational area where IFRC personnel are deployed, with risk mitigation measures identified and implemented accordingly. All IFRC personnel must, and RC/RC staff and volunteers are encouraged to, complete the IFRC Stay Safe e-learning courses, i.e. Stay Safe 2.0 Global edition, Levels 1-3. Insurance coverage for volunteers involved in the operation should be ensured. • Finance and human resources: Ensure compliance under the operation with IFRC and donor requirements. Promote a risk management culture at all levels and ensure staff and volunteers understand finance and human resource rules and procedures across all support services. • PMER: As a Federation-wide team, support the NRCS in establishing and implementing a common monitoring,		

evaluation, and reporting framework for the operation. This includes harmonised indicators and tools, Federation-wide result tracking, reporting, learning, and evaluation to support timely decision-making and accountability to affected communities, partners, and donors.

- **Communications:** Support the visibility of IFRC and NRCS actions through joint communication initiatives.
- **Surge Support:** Provide surge personnel in key functional roles (Operations, Logistics, Communications, Shelter, Health, WASH) for up to three months.

Risk management

The NRCS Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), as the main coordination hub for the operation, is responsible for regularly assessing risks and identifying mitigation actions as appropriate. The EOC receives daily support from the IFRC and its membership, with risk management embedded in the planning and monitoring functions of the operation. The IFRC Nepal Delegation is also supported by an in-country security focal point who is available to provide assessments and continuous monitoring. At this stage, the risks below and their mitigation actions have been identified, noting that the table below will be updated as the situation evolves:

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
• Access to the targeted areas due to logistical capacities and challenges	Medium	Medium	• Road assessments and monitoring will be undertaken to inform future travel and trucking of goods (supported by the Country Delegation Security Focal Point) • Maintain close coordination with local authorities and police • Use of CVA programming to reduce logistics challenges
• Delay in field reporting on activity progress and operational challenges, preventing the management team from taking corrective decisions as required	High	Medium	• Increase capacity at the field level for data collection and reporting • Increased use of IT/IM tools for real-time information (supported by the SIMS) • Collective support of the IFRC and membership to the EOC
• Overdue reporting and late reconciliation of work advances, causing subsequent cash flow delays	Medium	Medium	• Increased financial monitoring at the local level to ensure compliance • Orientation for field-level staff and volunteers on rules and procedures, with remote coaching as required
• Risk of sexual exploitation/abuse and	High	High	• Introduce minimum standards and commitments on gender and

gender-based violence against children, women, and or other targeted community members			diversity across all projects and programmes • Commitment to the IFRC's fundamental principles and the Code of Conduct, PSEA, safeguarding, and child protection policy • Community sensitisation on gender-based violence and child protection • Basic community complaints and response mechanisms, including a hotline and whistleblowing mechanisms • Gender and inclusion team to provide training on gender-related issues, as well as staff training on the IFRC's Code of Conduct • The NRCS also has its own Code of Conduct, which is signed off by staff and volunteers
• Poor quality of data collection and analysis (due to capacity gaps), resulting in a lack (or perceived lack) of accountability to communities, partners, and donors	Medium	Medium	• M&E framework for the operation is developed and disseminated • Reconciliation of narrative and activity reports to ensure consistency • Promote the use of standardised data collection formats by the NRCS, IFRC, and its membership • Keep donors informed about any challenges related to data collection, aggregation, and reporting

Quality and accountability

The NRCS will lead monitoring and learning for the operation, supported by the IFRC and Participating National Societies through a common Federation-wide approach. Within the initial implementation period, the operation will establish an implementation plan, indicator tracking table, reporting schedule, and harmonised data-collection tools.

Operational performance, community feedback, risks, financial delivery, and sector quality will be reviewed through regular branch and national-level monitoring, joint field visits, and periodic management reviews. Post-distribution monitoring will be conducted after major distributions and cash interventions. The operation will also conduct structured learning reviews at key phase transitions and a final evaluation proportionate to the operation's risk, duration, and funding.

Sector	Indicators	Target
Shelter	Number of households provided with emergency shelter item support	10,000 (50,000 people)
	Number of households provided with conditional cash assistance for transitional shelter	6,000 (30,000 people)
	Number of targeted sites for which debris removal has been completed	3
	Percentage of assisted households reporting that shelter assistance met immediate shelter needs	80%
	Number of people reached with shelter support through conditional cash grants	1,450
	Percentage of people surveyed whose households received a conditional cash transfer who are satisfied with the amount received	80%
	Number of masons who completed training in safer shelter construction	240
	Number of staff and volunteers who completed training in PASSA ToT	40
	Number of communities that completed the PASSA rollout process	10
Livelihoods	Number of people reached with livelihoods-related training sessions	840 people (168 families)
	Number of targeted households provided with conditional cash grants	840 people (168 families)
	Percentage of surveyed people whose households received cash transfers/vouchers who are satisfied with the amount received	80%
MPC	Percentage of households that report being able to meet their basic needs according to their priorities	80%
	Number of households provided with unconditional cash assistance	6,000 (30,000 people)
	Number of households receiving unconditional cash assistance in the first three months of the operation	2,000 (10,000 people)
Health	Number of volunteers mobilised on MHPSS, ECV, and FA	1,300
	Number of Red Cross Emergency Clinics (RCEC) deployed	1
	Number of people reached with MHPSS services and activities during the emergency and recovery phases, disaggregated by sex and age where feasible	50,000
	Number of people reached with health promotion as a response to an emergency by community-based volunteers	50,000
	Number of health facilities rehabilitated/reconstructed	10
WASH	Number of households that received and improved sanitation facility	8,000
	Number of people covered with hygiene promotion activities	50,000
	Number of people provided with access to safely managed drinking water services or an improved drinking water source constructed or rehabilitated	40,000
PGI	Number of temporary safe spaces established/operated	5
	Number of people reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	50,000
	National Society completed the IFRC Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis	1
	Percentage of assisted people reporting assistance was safe, accessible, inclusive and dignified	80%
	Number of people reached with referral services	This is as per needed

	Number of people receiving assistive devices following the screening camps	550
	Number of RCRC staff and volunteers trained in PGI	144
	Number of separated family members able to restore family contact	Through the ICRC
	Number of families able to clarify the fate of their missing family members	Through the ICRC
CEA	Number of people receiving relevant operational information	50,000
	Number of feedback received and responded to	1,500
	Percentage of people surveyed reported receiving useful and actionable information	80%
Education	Number of children receiving an education kit	6,000
DRR	Number of staff and volunteers trained in disaster risk reduction	696
	Number of disaster risk mitigation schemes completed	36
	Number of early warning system installed/updated	4
	Number of people reached with DRR initiatives including early warning	TBC
National Society Strengthening	Number of staff and volunteers oriented on pre-deployment	250
	Number of National Society volunteers insured	150
	Number of lessons learnt workshop conducted	2
Secretariat Services	Number of surges supporting the operation	9
	Number of public communication materials/visibility (e.g., social media posts, web articles, infographics, media article/ interview)	20
	Number of post distribution monitoring conducted	1
	Number of evaluations conducted for the operation	2

FUNDING REQUIREMENT

Federation-wide funding requirement*

Federation-wide Funding Requirement including the National Society domestic target, IFRC Secretariat, and the Participating National Society funding requirement CHF 25 million	IFRC Secretariat Funding Requirement in support of the Federation-wide funding ask CHF 18 million
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**For more information on the Federation-wide funding requirement, refer to the section: Federation-wide Approach*

Breakdown of the IFRC secretariat funding requirement



OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

MDRNP022– Nepal – 2026 Flash Floods

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Planned Operations	14,390,000
Shelter and Basic Household Items	CHF 8,120,000
Livelihoods	CHF 262,000
Multi-purpose Cash	CHF 1,096,000
Health	CHF 938,000
Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	CHF 2,596,000
Protection, Gender, and Inclusion	CHF 372,000
Education	CHF 178,000
Community Engagement and Accountability	CHF 106,000
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	CHF 722,000
Enabling Approaches	3,605,000
Coordination and Partnerships	CHF 269,000
Secretariat Services	CHF 746,000
National Society Strengthening	CHF 2,590,00
TOTAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS	CHF 17,995,000

All amounts in Swiss francs (CHF)

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Reference



Click here for:

- [Emergency Appeal](#)