

2 July 2021

**Appeal for Prayers and Support**  
**for Manang Flash Flood Collaborative Response**

Dear Brothers and Sisters, all our prayer warriors and supporters,

Greetings from Pokhara and trust and pray that you all are well and safe.

Here it is to highlight the current flash flood disasters happened due to the constant rain both in the hills and in terai. Monsoon have just begun and it has been so devastating and thousands of families have been in hardship and struggling so much for survival. Many districts have been hit by this early monsoon, constant rain.

1. In Sindhupalchowk District, Melamchi the main city, Panchawat Rural Municipality, Indrawati Rural Municipality and Helembu were highly devastated by the fully surged river. According to the locals, 7 people died, 20 people are still missing 500 houses are fully damaged, 200 houses are partially damaged, leaving 700 houses displaced. Some churches and 30 in Melamchi and 15 Christian families in other places have been displaced. People lost everything they had.

Road access now have been resumed and relief supplies are gradually reaching there. People are in the tents and some have been preparing old tinned temporary shelters. In the first two weeks since 15<sup>th</sup> June, people were in the schools and community buildings and had mass kitchen. As schools are preparing for new session, they have to move from there. CGI sheets for temporary shelters has been said to be the priority need now. Nepal Christian Relief Society in Kathmandu and other Christian organisations are leading the relief work for those area. Health and hygiene has been seen another emergency needs as there is risk of mainly the water borne diseases spread. ACN/PCC have been sending some cash through church leaders to help them to meet some of the immediate needs and will be participating with support in the response the with the above mentioned collaboration.

2. In **Manang District**, the district beyond Himalaya, has been devastated very badly this year on the same week of Sindhupalchowk. The Marshyangdi River flows through the small towns there. Due to the week long constant rain, the river surged so crazy and swept these towns and surrounding residences, and has left many homeless. 150 houses



were disappeared, and these families became empty in no time. It is still difficult to find out the exact number of people affected by this flood as communication and road access have been disconnected. The small hydropower they had electricity from now is no more there. Power cut continues, this has also affected communication. Since the road has been damaged (mostly on the rock) not all the people are accessible. Some houses have just the top floor of the 3 story building the rest is drawn in the rubbles and mud. 2 churches were totally swept away, it cannot be traced out where they were. Schools, police posts and public buildings, belly bridges all have been totally swept away. Since the roads are totally damaged, and communication cut-off, people are disconnected even from their neighbourhoods. The current needs are for survival i.e. food items, non-food essential items, hygiene. But to reach with those supplies has no way now without airlifting option. As rain continues this week also, adverse weather impeding helicopter transportation too.



3. Gorkha is also another district with numerous destructive landslides this week since 1<sup>st</sup> July due to the ongoing regular rain. According to the District Disaster Committee and the preliminary information indicates that only in Palungtar Municipality, 25 houses are completely damaged and 5 houses are partially damaged, not worth living in. 137 people have been homeless now. There might be more damages in those and other areas, as the report keeps coming. The immediate needs are highlighted as food items, tarps, and blankets and hygiene kits.

Response plan highlights for Manang Disaster:

1. For Sindhupalchow, there are like minded organisations working in collaborations in Kathmandu taking lead for the response, they include UVN, Nepal Christian Relief Services. Part of this network based in Pokhara will be focusing on the Manang and Gorkha Disaster Response.

2. For Manang Disaster Response:

- a. A collaboration has been formed consisting of : Pokhara Christian Community, Nepal Christian Society (Gandaki Province), Nepal Churches Fellowship Nepal (NCF) (Gandaki), INF Nepal, ACN, HOM Nepal, Nepal Baptist Council (Gandaki), other likeminded organisations and individuals as we are consulting with many to be a part of this.
- b. Airlifting will be used for foods supplies initially, to help them survive for some days until the track for the donkey is open. Based on the information so fare we have received, for now, 120 households (out of 200) we will cover with rice (60 packs - 1500 kgs), lentil (240 kgs), cooking oil (240 litres), salt (120 Kgs) and tarps (30 pcs). We will have around 2200 kgs to ransport immediately and for a helicopter it will take 5-6 trips as it carries only 450 kgs in one go. For one trip from Beshishahar will cost NPR 70,000 and from Pokhara to Manang around NPR 130,000. To use a helicopter is cheaper from Beshishahar, Lamjung for this reason, we will transport supplies from Pokhara to Beshishar in an INF truck. We aim to achieve it by Sunday, in 2 or 3 days, or as soon as possible. One going bad weather has been another challenge for helicopter transportation.
- c. Second phase will be another relief supply which we are planning to do as soon as the track is open for donkeys.
- d. Funds management: We have decided to develop a common concept note and INF and ACN teams are working on it. The initial relief costs will be around NPR 60,00,000. (USD 52,000, EURO 44,000, GBP 38,000, AUD 70,000). The concept note will be shared among the collaboration team and they will share with the respective potential supporters with request for help. If this collaborative relief works well, there we will plan further for recovery and reconstruction project in partnership with government where possible.
- e. INFN and ACN will make NPR 500,000 cash available for the immediate expenses, for example payment for the helicopter's charge.
- f. Technical support to develop and deliver the project will be provided by INFN and ACN.

3. For ACN and PCC:

I have already shared with you a 'Monsoon Disaster Response' concept note for prayers and support as possible. Here, it specific with the Manang Flash-Flood Disaster Response. ACN/PCC needs approximately 35% of the total funds required for this relief work which is NPR 21,00,000 (USD 18,000, EURO 15,500, GBP 13,500, AUD 24,000). The share is still to be decided though by the collaboration though. For the next phase of recovery and reconstruction will be developed based on this experience and learning as said above.

Looking back to other years, there will certainly be more disasters coming 2-3 months. We have our working areas in Nawalparasi among the very poor communities, and we need to respond to

the needs of the people who are affected by the floods. We will be working with the local churches and Christian Communities where possible.

4. Prayer Requests:

- a. Pray for the good weather and all logistics arrangement so that goods are delivered as soon as possible to the people in need for help for survival.
- b. Pray for the collaboration work - it may have a better impact in the target communities, government and also bring goodness among us.
- c. Pray that the funds for each collaboration partners are able to raise. Pray for the funding needs for ACN/PCC to this project which is approximately NPR 21,00,000 as mentioned above.
- d. Pray for other needs, we have received so many requests for help like, houses consumed by fire and families got burnt having nothing left, houses destroyed by floods and landslides. There is a growing needs in Nawalparasi for the people affected by floods and have all crops lost in it, foods destroyed and so on.
- e. COVID-19 relief response continues. We have had a just a 3 days with some relaxed lock-down and the cases of coivid infection again is rising. It went down to 2400 and was nearly 2900 yesterday.

Finally, thank you for your continue prayers and for giving so generously that has helped us to help other who are in needs. ACN and PCC are always grateful to you.

We remember you in our prayers.

Kindly find here a video clip in the following of Manang, how devastating the flash flood was.

<https://youtu.be/axzpOkYYzvg>

With warm regards,

Raju

For ACN/PCC