

WASH NEWSLETTER



PC: NRCS, Rasuwa

Issue#4; Sept.-Oct. 2020

COVID-19 and Monsoon Preparedness and Response Operation

✖ Background

Nepal has been experiencing the wide transmission of COVID-19 pandemic and it has spread in all 75 districts. The coronavirus death toll in Nepal has crossed 739. Similarly, the number of people in isolation are increasing along with the number of recovering patients. Overall, the gender distribution remains skewed towards male, who constitute around 69 percent (91247) of the confirmed cases and 31 percent (40999) are female. Considering the spike in cases, local government has re-considered additional restriction measures in hot spot whereas the MoHP on 4th October has urged the general public to celebrate the upcoming one of the biggest national festivals (Dashain and Tihar) where they are currently residing.

COVID - 19 clinics have been operating from 125 hospitals and RT-PCR test is currently being conducted rapidly from around 57 (40 government and 17 private) designated COVID-19 laboratories throughout the country. Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) with its 77 districts chapters has been actively involved in COVID-19 preparedness and response since early February 2020 in coordination with the local, provincial and national government.

✖ Monsoon Updates

NRCS maintaining its core mandate, is heavily involved in flood and landslide response activities from the first day of incidents utilizing its wider network of volunteers, sub-chapters, district chapters, province offices and HQs. NRCS in response is continuing its relief distribution services in different sectors such as WASH, PGI, Health and Non-Food Relief Items (NFRI).

The IRA (Initial Rapid Assessment) report has recorded 59 flood/landslide incidents which has resulted in 281 deaths in 38 districts of the country. Apart from this, 104 persons are missing and 153 have been injured. Calculating its impact on families, cumulatively 23,319 households were directly affected by flood/landslides. Out of this figure, almost 9,626 households have been compelled to be displaced. Report states only around 50% of displaced families could return to their original places. Remaining are still in temporary places and waiting additional recovery assistance. Not only this, flood/landslide have destroyed 11,867 households categorically 4,641 as fully damaged and 7,226 households as a partial damage. It is yet to calculate the total resources required to build back better communities.

Situation Overview (as of 18 October 2020)

Description	Nepal	Global
# of Confirmed Cases	132,246	39,745,033
# of patients recovered	92,166	27,336,405
# of death	739	1,110,843
# of people in quarantine	4,831	na
# of people in isolation	39,341	7,408,090
#of Countries Affected	189	
(click for updates): https://covid19.mohip.gov.np/#/ https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html		

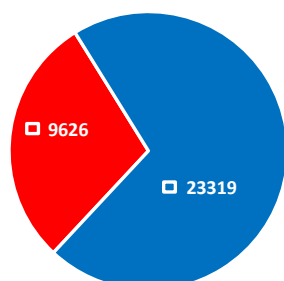
Statistical Situation: Summary as of 14 October, 2020

NFRIs distributed

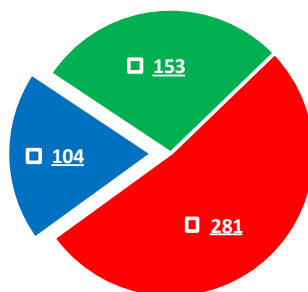
NFRIs full set	1754
Tarpaulin	5147
Blanket	1237
Utensil	306
Number of Volunteer mobilized	114

WASH items distributed

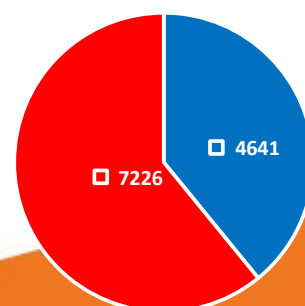
Hygiene kit	1320
Emergency toilets set	69
Aqua tab	1000
Soap	1950
Bucket	1086
Piyush (Water purification)	50



■ Displaced Families ■ Affected Families



■ Dead ■ Missing ■ Injured



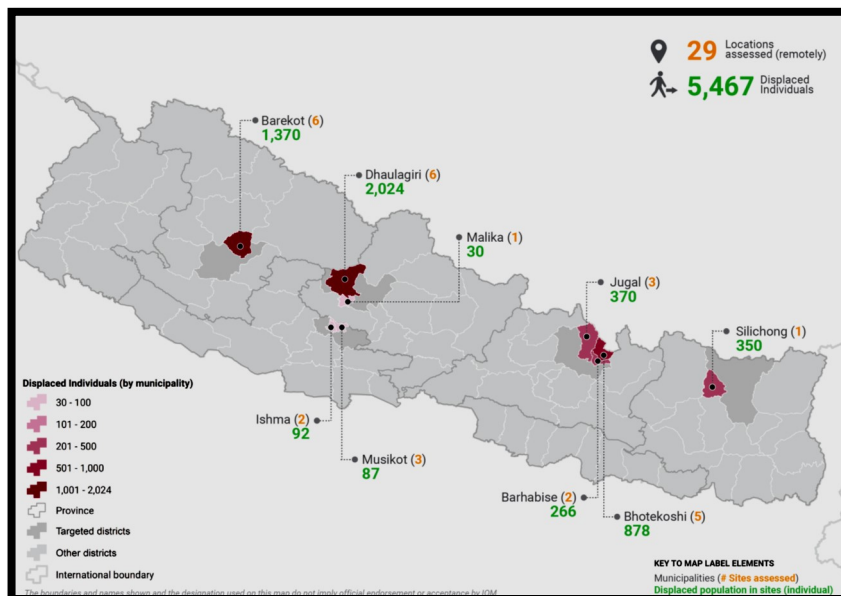
■ Fully Destroyed HH
■ Partially Destroyed HH

✖ Government in action

Nepal Landslide and floods site assessment

The 2015 post-earthquake survey shows that there are several places in the mountainous areas of Nepal where the villages were at the risk of land deformation and landslides. It was recommended to relocate such high risk villages to safer places and to construct an embankment wall with proper drainage system to mitigate the sliding risks and water seeping through cracks. However, expert suggestions were not followed and result is every year after 2015 earthquake, people are facing impacts of landslides. This year, it has increased rapidly and still is in incremental trend, not only huge number of people were displaced but death tolls has also increased.

The latest report of "Nepal Landslide and Floods Sites Assessment" prepared by International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) cluster in Nepal shows that within 29 active sites assessed 5,467 displaced individuals from 1,066 households of 5 districts were residing in these sites. Among which 51% of the displacement site population are female and 49% are male. Observing critical situations, Nepal Government has prepared the reallocation plans and has started to relocate people in safer places nearby their original inhabitant. In this relocation process, rural and urban municipalities are being sensitized to pertain their roles and responsibilities in disaster risk management, implementation of the preparedness programs, response, recovery and reconstruction as per Local Government Operations Act, 2017 as well as Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act, 2017. ([click on the below link for the full report](https://dtm.iom.int/reports/nepal-%E2%80%93-landslides-and-floods-displacement-%E2%80%93-site-assessment-report-september-2020))



<https://dtm.iom.int/reports/nepal-%E2%80%93-landslides-and-floods-displacement-%E2%80%93-site-assessment-report-september-2020>

✖ Beneficiaries' voice

community hygiene messengers

Bimala Deviram (55) and Jalina Khatun (45), inhabitants of Sunsari district, Bhokraha Narasinga Rural Municipality ward number 8 attended awareness session on COVID-19 facilitated by NRCS WASH supervisor, learnt proper steps of hand washing with soap.

"We have been washing hands but for the first time we know that there are proper steps and techniques of hand washing with soap which we are now going to teach in the community, we therefore are very thankful to NRCS for making us a part of learning session." Jalina Khatun and Bimala Deviram.



Hand washing demonstration to Bimala and Jalina by NRCS WASH supervisor

✖ Local government voice

thank you NRCS!!

Padam Singh Thagunna President of Melauli Municipality Ward no- 8 said that **"to promote hand washing behavior in all households inclusively, NRCS western disaster preparedness project conduct public awareness activities along with bucket and soap distribution."** He further added that **"for quarantine management, NRCS also provides water tank and soap."**

He thanks NRCS for timely launching of this project in the community during COVID-19 pandemic. He also reached each household to motivate and change community people behavior in hygiene promotion activities.



Ward president distributing bucket and soap to local woman

✱ Nepal Red Cross Society in Action



Girls practicing hand washing with soap from household handwashing station, Baitadi (PC: Niraj Shrestha)



Mask and sanitizer distribution to front line workers, Dadeldura (PC: Dilli Raj Joshi)

कोभिड-१९ को यस कठिन परिस्थितिमा



अग्रभागमा सेवा
पुर्याउने व्यक्तिहरुलाई
स्वागत गरौं

 नेपाल रेडक्रस सोसाइटी

IEC Materials developed in tribute to front line workers by NRCS



PPE support to Okhaldhunga District Hospital, Okhaldhunga (PC: NRCS Okhaldhunga)



Distribution of relief materials to the flood and landslide affected community, Salyan (PC: Purna Prasad Hamal)



Bucket and soap distribution to community people, Doti (PC: Rabin Dhakal & Rup Bahadur Kathayet)



Celebrating global handwashing day by demonstrating proper ways of handwashing with soap, Dailekh (PC: Bhakta Rawat)



Hygiene Kit distribution to COVID-19 infected people, Ramechhap (PC: Sulochana Dahal)

✱ Global Handwashing Day (15 Oct. 2020)

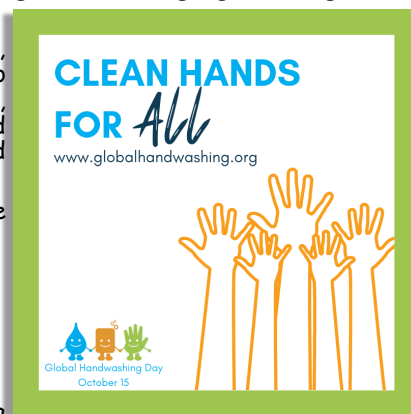
In order to motivate people around the world to improve their hand washing habits, global hand washing day is celebrated every 15th of October since 2008. It is also a global advocacy and reminder campaign dedicated for increasing awareness and understanding about the importance of hand washing with soap and water as an effective and affordable way to prevent disease transmission and saving lives. Washing hands with water and soap in critical time is very much important and effective to break the 5F (Faeces, Fluid, Flies, Field and Finger) transmission route and prevent from spreading germs to stay healthy. The 2020-2024 Global Hand Washing Partnership (GHP) Strategic Plan emphasizes the focus on advocacy, knowledge management and highlights the greater need for integration and country level action.

This year, global hand washing day theme focuses on the links between hand washing and food, including food hygiene and nutrition. This year's theme is "Hand Hygiene for All" seeking to raise awareness of availability and access of soap and water globally, especially in public places, schools and health care facilities. It also calls for institutions and individuals to improve hand hygiene effort in the COVID-19 response that can outlast the pandemic and ensures continued access to soap and water.

As of 'Center of Community Disease Control and Prevention', hand washing education in the community can;

- ◇ Reduce the number of people who get sick with diarrheal disease by about 23-40%
- ◇ Reduce absenteeism due to gastrointestinal illness in school children by 29-57%
- ◇ Reduce the diarrheal illness in people with weakened immune system by about 58%
- ◇ Reduce respiratory illness, like colds, in general population by about 16-21%

Following the global trend and RCRC movement, NRCS is also celebrating Global Hand Washing day as a month long campaign from 29th September to 29th October. All 77 district chapters with their unique promotional campaigns and a universal theme of "Hand Hygiene for All" are celebrating the event despite of COVID - 19 crisis.



✱ 5W Reporting

With the localized operation of COVID-19 initiated by the NRCS, the implementation plan responding to 5 key areas (Health, WASH, PGI, CEA and Shelter), 2 enabling action (NSD and PMER-IM) and 3 support functions (Finance, Logistic and Human Resource) has been finalized and ready to implement in districts with constant monitoring of the situation, giving emphasis to safety and security of staff/ volunteers involved to the utmost level.

With overall objective to support the management and program team and give the overview of: the activities implemented in the targeted areas, reaching vulnerable population, quick result of approach and strategy applied, changes in intervention, NRCS therefore introduced 5W reporting tool designed to meet the need of implementing program team, partners and stakeholders at different timeframe. Keeping it simple, 5W table answers What, Who, Where, When and Whom/Why question to each activity/event to get the information.

Target audience of 5W reporting

- a. **Community people:** As community people are directly benefited through different services provided by NRCS. Reporting back to community improves transparency and accountability.
- b. **Government:** As NRCS is auxiliary to Government, this reporting will strengthen the coordination with government at all level.
- c. **Partner National Societies:** Different PNSs are the main source who are funding NRCS programmes/projects, reporting the activities progress meets the expectation and objectives of PNS as agreed.
- d. **Other stakeholders:** Along with NRCS, many other organizations like United Nation, UNICEF, Coca-Cola, USAID are working together in responses at community level. So the prepared report will meet the expectation and attract other stakeholders in supporting NRCS activities for future operations.
- e. **NRCS:** The information can be used for senior level decision making and prioritize NRCS resource mobilization.

✱ Three days WASH Training Package on COVID-19

Considering the rapid spread of COVID-19 in various communities, WASH team of NRCS has coordinated and led in developing different WASH training packages on COVID-19. This training is designed to orient and train the volunteers, staffs and community people to deliver knowledge, skills and also to motivate trainees on proper application of behavioural communication change in daily life. The "Three days WASH Training Package on COVID-19" includes endorsed contents from WHO guidelines, journals and guidelines

from different departments and ministries of Nepal Government as well as various institutions and academia as a reference. The contents of this training are as follows:

- ✎ Origin of COVID-19
- ✎ Coughing Hygiene
- ✎ Physical Distance
- ✎ Hand Hygiene
- ✎ WASH Facilities
- ✎ Disinfection Method and Importance
- ✎ Risk Communication

✱ Upcoming/participated event

- ✎ Cash hub webinar on 7th October
- ✎ Cash and voucher assistance and WASH intervention technical working group meeting on 1st October
- ✎ Global hand washing campaign one month special program from 29th September to 29th October

Contact Detail

Sagar Shrestha, Director, Community Development Department

email: sagar.shrestha@nracs.org, contact: +977-9803202129

Amar Mani Poudel, Deputy Director, Community Development Department

email: amar.poudel@nracs.org, contact: +977-9841397184

Suvechhya Manandhar, PMER Coordinator, Community Development Department,

WASH Division, email: suvechhya.manandhar@nracs.org, contact: +977-9841134868

Contributors

Kiran Kumar Acharya (WASH Engineer), Sirjana Devkota (PMER Officer), Birendra Shahi (WASH Coordinator), Dikendra Pokhrel (Program Officer), Community Development Department, Disaster Management Department, Health Department, Junior/Youth Department and Humanitarian Values and Communication Department

Stay healthy while travelling



When coughing and sneezing cover mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue - throw tissue away immediately and wash hands



If you choose to wear a face mask, be sure to cover mouth and nose - avoid touching mask once it's on



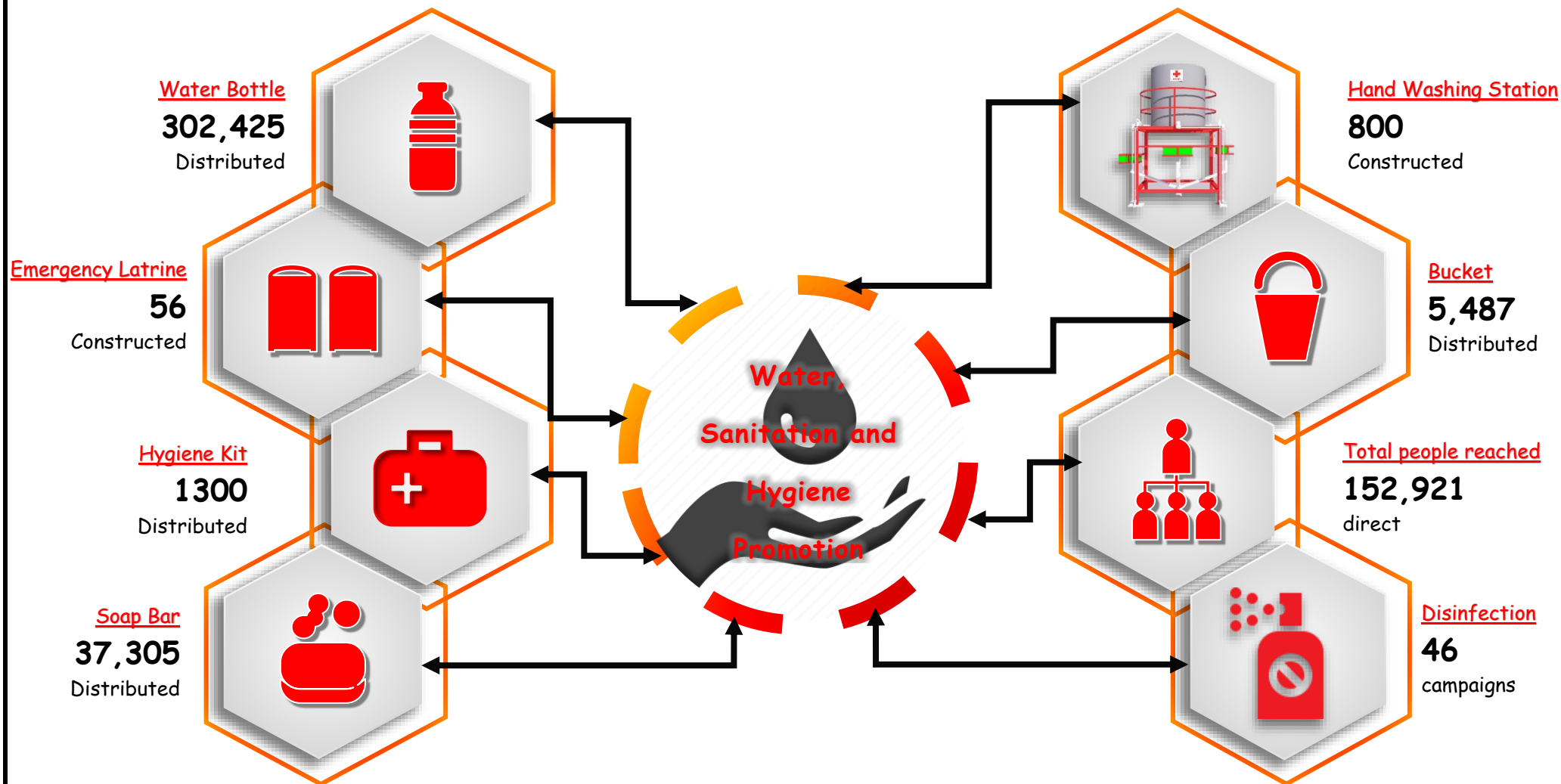
Immediately discard single-use mask after each use and wash hands after removing masks



Source: WHO

WASH

COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE OPERATION



Update as on 15th October, 2020

Source: https://bit.ly/NRCS_COVID19_Dashboard