

RAPID NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

Flood-Affected Households in Bhotekoshi Flash Flood, Nuwakot

Following the 26 August 2026 flash flood

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Flood-affected settlement along the Bhotekoshi-Trishuli river corridor following the 26 August 2026 flash flood. Image source: Nexpher News, extracted 20 September 2026

Key figures *Four assessed Nuwakot municipalities**

PEOPLE MISSING	DEATHS REPORTED	PEOPLE INJURED	HOUSEHOLDS AFFECTED	HOUSES FULLY DAMAGED
8,193	609	221	2,545	1,745

* Belkotgadhi, Tarkeshwor, Bidur and Kispang. Provisional municipal data; see Section 2.1.

Assessment date: September 2026

Report type: Rapid Needs Assessment [RNA]

Assessment areas: Tarkeshwor RM, Belkotgadhi RM, Kispang RM and Bidur Municipality, Nuwakot

1. Executive Summary

On 26 August 2026, a catastrophic flash flood triggered by an ice-rock avalanche and subsequent debris flow originating from the upper catchment of Lhende Khola severely affected downstream communities along the Bhotekoshi and Trishuli river systems. The disaster caused significant loss of life, destruction of houses, damage to public infrastructure, disruption of essential services, and loss of livelihoods across multiple districts including Rasuwa and Nuwakot (Adhikari et al., 2026; Asian Disaster Preparedness Center [ADPC], 2026; Chand et al., 2026; Government of Nepal, National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority [NDRRMA], 2026).

A Rapid Needs Assessment [RNA] was conducted to identify the immediate priorities of affected populations in four municipalities of Nuwakot: Tarkeshwor RM, Belkotgadhi RM, Kispang RM and Bidur Municipality. Findings of the RNA, including secondary sources, indicate that affected households continue to face critical shortages of safe shelter, household items, drinking water, sanitation facilities, clothing, food, and livelihood assets.

The assessment identified three urgent humanitarian priorities:

- Restoration of minimum household living conditions through emergency shelter and Non-Food Item (NFI) assistance.
- Restoration of access to safe drinking water and hygiene facilities.
- Protection of public health through emergency sanitation and hygiene support.

Key Priority Needs

Emergency shelter materials	Blankets and bedding materials	Kitchen sets and cooking utensils	Safe drinking water supply	Water storage containers
Hygiene kits	Emergency toilet support	Clothing	Livelihood recovery support	Psychosocial support services

2. Disaster Overview

The flood event was triggered by a massive ice-rock avalanche in the upper Lhende Khola watershed near the Nepal–China border. The avalanche generated a large volume of debris that temporarily obstructed the river, and the subsequent release produced a destructive flood wave carrying sediment, rocks, ice, and debris downstream through the Bhotekoshi and Trishuli river corridors (Adhikari et al., 2026; ADPC, 2026; Chand et al., 2026).

The flood caused:

- Loss of human lives
- Destruction of houses
- Damage to roads and bridges
- Disruption of electricity and telecommunication services
- Damage to drinking water systems
- Agricultural losses
- Loss of livestock and household assets

The impacts were particularly severe in riverbank settlements and low-lying communities of Belkotgadhi, Tarkeshwor, Kispang and Bidur Municipality.

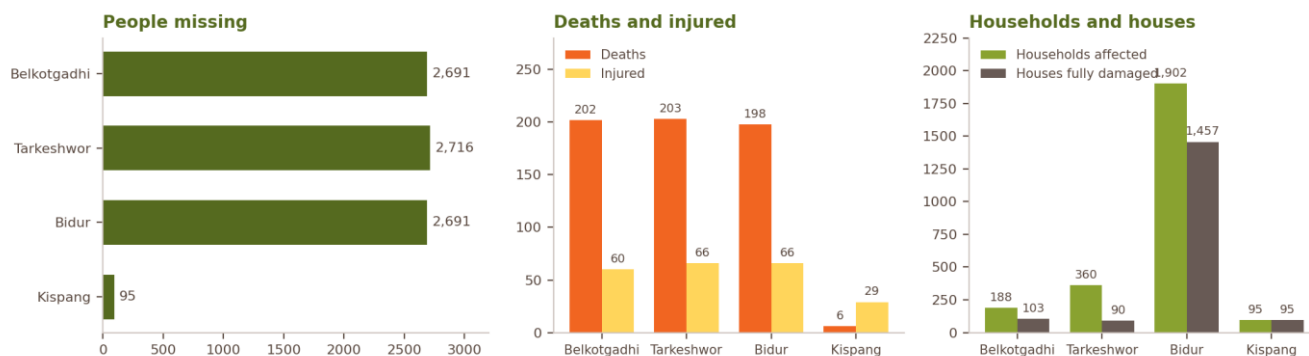


Flood impact map, before and after: Bhotekoshi–Trishuli river corridor

2.1 Scale of Impact

Municipal impact data compiled for the four assessed Nuwakot municipalities record 8,193 people missing, 609 deaths, 221 injured, 2,545 affected households and 1,745 fully damaged houses. Bidur accounts for most of the housing damage (1,457 of the 1,745 fully damaged houses, or 83%), along with 198 deaths, 66 injured and 2,691 people missing. Kispang, the smallest of the four by population affected, recorded 95 people missing, 6 deaths, 29 injured, 95 affected households and 95 fully damaged houses.

Municipality	People missing	Deaths	Injured	Households affected	Houses fully damaged
Belkotgadhi	2,691	202	60	188	103
Tarkeshwor	2,716	203	66	360	90
Bidur	2,691	198	66	1,902	1,457
Kispang	95	6	29	95	95
Total	8,193	609	221	2,545	1,745



Source: RNA and municipal impact dataset. All figures are provisional. The dataset covers only the four affected municipalities of Nuwakot district assessed.

3. Assessment Methodology

The assessment was conducted using rapid humanitarian assessment methodologies commonly applied in Initial Rapid Assessments (IRA), review of situation reports and Rapid Damage and Needs Assessments prepared by NDRRMA (RDNA; see also European Union et al., 2013), with available evidence triangulated from field observations, key-informant inputs, local-level reporting, administrative data, and secondary sources (ADPC, 2026; Government of Nepal, NDRRMA, 2026; Ministry of Home Affairs & NDRRMA, 2026).

Methods Used	Target Groups
• Direct field observation • Key Informant Interviews (KII) • Review of municipal and district-level data	• Households with destroyed or damaged houses • Female-headed households • Elderly people • People with disabilities • Children • Pregnant and lactating women • Marginalized communities

4. Key Assessment Findings

4.1 Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

PRIORITY: VERY HIGH

Shelter emerged as the highest immediate priority across all municipalities, consistent with field reports of destroyed or contaminated housing, displacement, lost bedding and cooking items, and urgent needs for safe transitional shelter and essential non-food items (ADPC, 2026; Government of Nepal, NDRRMA, 2026; Ministry of Home Affairs & NDRRMA, 2026).

Many households reported complete or partial destruction of houses, while others remain exposed to risks due to damaged structures. Families have lost mattresses, bedding, blankets, clothing, kitchen utensils, food stocks, and other essential household items.

Major Issues

- Destroyed houses
- Inadequate temporary shelter
- Insufficient bedding materials
- Loss of household assets
- Limited protection from rain and cold weather

Priority needs: item	Priority
Tarpaulins	Very High
Shelter repair kits	Very High
Blankets	Very High
Mattresses	High
Sleeping mats	High
Kitchen sets	Very High
Solar lights	Medium



Flood-affected houses. Source: Via Campesina; GNI Nepal.

4.2 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

PRIORITY: VERY HIGH

The flood damaged community water-supply systems, intake structures, reservoirs, pipelines, and distribution networks. Field observations also found that electricity outages disrupted water pumping and sanitation services, increasing dependence on unsafe or limited water supplies (ADPC, 2026; Government of Nepal, NDRRMA, 2026).

Several sanitation facilities were damaged or rendered unusable. Blocked toilets, insufficient water, standing water, animal remains, accumulated waste, high temperatures, and continuing monsoon conditions increased public-health risks and reinforced the need for temporary sanitation, hygiene support, carcass management, and water-quality monitoring (ADPC, 2026; Government of Nepal, NDRRMA, 2026; Ministry of Home Affairs & NDRRMA, 2026).

WASH support	Priority
Water purification support	Very High
Water storage containers	Very High
Hygiene kits	Very High
Temporary toilets	High
Handwashing facilities	High

Key Issues

- Damaged water supply systems
- Unsafe drinking water sources
- Insufficient water storage containers
- Damaged household toilets
- Increased risk of waterborne diseases

4.3 Health

PRIORITY: HIGH

Health facilities remained operational in some locations but faced accessibility constraints, power outages, disrupted water and laboratory services, pressure from displaced populations, and shortages of oxygen and essential medicines. Priority actions include restoring critical utilities, mobile health support, disease surveillance, continuity of medication, psychosocial support, and risk communication (ADPC, 2026; Government of Nepal, NDRRMA, 2026).

Potential health concerns include:

- Respiratory infections
- Waterborne illnesses
- Diarrhoeal diseases
- Psychosocial distress
- Skin infections

Priority needs

- Essential medicines
- Public health awareness
- Emergency medical outreach
- Water quality monitoring
- Mental health and psychosocial support

4.5 Education

PRIORITY: MEDIUM

Schools in affected communities experienced disruption because of damaged facilities and access routes, displacement, family separation, and loss of educational materials. Reports also identify emotional distress among children and recommend temporary learning support, learning materials, child-friendly spaces, and psychosocial services (ADPC, 2026; Chand et al., 2026; Government of Nepal, NDRRMA, 2026).

Needs identified

- School supplies
- Temporary learning support
- School sanitation restoration
- Student psychosocial support

4.6 Protection and Vulnerable Groups

Children, elderly people, people with disabilities, people with chronic illnesses, pregnant and lactating women, bereaved families, and households lacking documents or financial resources faced additional barriers to assistance and recovery. Field observations identified urgent needs for continuity of care, child protection, psychological first aid, accessible services, and safe accommodation (ADPC, 2026; Government of Nepal, NDRRMA, 2026).

Most vulnerable

- Children
- Elderly people
- Pregnant women and lactating mothers
- People with disabilities
- Female-headed households

Protection concerns

- Reduced access to services
- Safety concerns in temporary shelters
- Psychosocial distress
- Increased caregiving burden on women

5. Priority Needs Ranking

Sector	Priority	Sector	Priority
Shelter & NFI	Very High	Food assistance	High
Safe drinking water	Very High	Livelihood recovery	High
Hygiene support	Very High	Education recovery	Medium
Emergency sanitation	High	Psychosocial support	High
Health services	High		

6. Recommended Humanitarian Response

Immediate Response (0–6 months)

Shelter and NFI

- Distribution of tarpaulins
- Blankets
- Mattresses
- Sleeping mats
- Kitchen sets
- Emergency shelter kits

WASH

- Drinking water supply support
- Water purification materials
- Hygiene kits
- Water storage containers
- Emergency sanitation facilities

Health

- Mobile health outreach
- Disease surveillance
- Health awareness campaigns

Early Recovery (6–24 months)

Shelter and WASH

- Reconstruction of damaged water systems
- Household shelter rehabilitation

Livelihoods

- Restoration of agricultural production
- Livelihood recovery support

Community resilience

- Repair of community infrastructure
- Community-based DRR activities

7. Conclusion

The assessment findings indicate that flood-affected households in Tarkeshwor RM, Belkotgadhi RM, Kispang RM and Bidur Municipality of Nuwakot continue to face significant humanitarian challenges following the 26 August 2026 Bhotekoshi flash flood. Loss of shelter, household assets, drinking-water systems, sanitation facilities, agricultural production, livelihoods, access, electricity, and communications has increased vulnerability among already at-risk populations. Immediate multi-sector assistance is required to restore minimum living conditions, ensure safe water and sanitation, sustain health and protection services, and support livelihoods. Early intervention will be critical to reduce further public-health risks and enable communities to transition from emergency response to safer, local-led recovery and resilience building. Please refer to annexes I, II and III (field assessment photographs, emergency responses, rapid need assessment tool)

References

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Annex I: Field Assessment Photographs

The photographs below document field observations and response activities corresponding to the assessment methodology and the key findings on shelter, health, education, protection, and psychosocial support.



Figure 1. Flood-damaged residential structures and debris along the river corridor.



Figure 2. Field coordination and consultation during the rapid needs assessment at a holding centre in a school.



Figure 3. Good Neighbors team at Trishuli Hospital.



Figure 4. Community consultation with women and children during field assessment (Protection & Vulnerable Groups).



Figure 5. Good Neighbors team meeting with the Vice-Chair of the District Coordination Committee (DCC).



Figure 6. Conducting a KII with a flood-affected person.

Photo source: Good Neighbors International Nepal field documentation, September 2026.

Annex II: Emergency Responses

GOOD NEIGHBORS INTERNATIONAL NEPAL

Nuwakot Emergency Response

Response Actions to Date

Bidur & Kispang, Nuwakot District · 28 August – ongoing

Good Neighbors International Nepal · Global Partnership Center · Good Neighbors Japan

1,100

HYGIENE KITS DISTRIBUTED

5,000

ORS PACKETS PROVIDED

4

CHILD-FRIENDLY SPACES
SET UP

12

ORPHAN FAMILIES
GETTING FOOD AID

4

MUNICIPALITIES ASSESSED

1

28 AUGUST

Immediate Relief Items Support and Rapid Need Assessment

2,000

Soap (pcs)

1,000

Chlorine solution

5,000

ORS packets

1,000

Menstrual pads
(packets)

217

Baby diapers (packets)

2

30-31 AUGUST

Rapid Need Assessment Team

On 30-31 August 2026, Mr. Keuntae Kim (Jeffery Kim), Head of Global Humanitarian Operations, GN International; Mr. Jimmy Park, Media; Mr. Shiva Shankar Sharma, Head of Operations, Good Neighbors International Nepal; and Ms. Anushka Gorkhali, Assistant PD and Communications & PR, conducted the second phase of the rapid assessment in Bidur Municipality, Nuwakot. The team visited two holding centres, held coordination meetings with local partners and the Deputy Mayor, and agreed to support the establishment of Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS) with Psychosocial Support (PSS) for affected children.

3

2 SEPTEMBER

Hygiene Kit Distribution and Rapid Need Assessment

1,100 hygiene kits (soap, chlorine solution, menstrual pads, baby diapers and ORS) distributed to families staying in holding centres, the District Coordination Committee and Trishuli Hospital in Bidur Municipality.

Distribution location	Hygiene kits
Trishuli Basic School, Ward 9	69
Shree Sulakshana Secondary School, Ward 9	42
Star Boarding School (80 households), Ward 9	80
Shree Bhairum Secondary School, Ward 8	250
District Coordination Committee, Ward 4	400
Trishuli Hospital, Ward 8	259
Total	1,100

4

9 SEPTEMBER

Food Relief for Orphan Families and Rapid Need Assessment

Rice, lentils, cooking oil, salt, soybeans, beaten rice, high-energy snacks and spices provided for the families of 12 orphaned children in Kispang Rural Municipality.

Child-Friendly Spaces

Functional since 3 September

1. Chandrajyoti Secondary School, Bidur-5
2. Sundari Keurini Secondary School, Bidur-10
3. Bhairum Secondary School, Bidur-8
4. Star Boarding School, Bidur-9

Psychosocial Support (PSS): ToT

10 September

Training of Trainers (ToT) delivered to psychosocial counsellors, PSS facilitators and PSS assistants at the Child-Friendly Spaces established at Sundari Keurini Secondary School and Chandrajyoti Secondary School, Nuwakot.

Rapid Needs Assessment

Municipalities covered

5. Bidur Municipality
6. Belkotgadhi Municipality
7. Kispang Rural Municipality
8. Tarkeshwor Rural Municipality

Field Presence & Reporting

9. Staff deployment from Head Office
10. Office established in Bidur, Nuwakot
11. Reporting via GPC Sitreps and NDRRMA 5W, shared with clusters: SWC, WASH, Health, Protection, Education and Food Security

Emergency Response Funding

Donor / fund	Amount	Status
GN Humanitarian Fund Project Proposal	\$150,000	Submitted
Japan Platform (JPF)	\$100,081	Submitted
Good Neighbors Japan	\$34,605	-
Community Chest of Korea: child protection & relief	TBD	In progress

Gaps & Challenges

Limited access to the western side of Bidur Municipality	Limited availability of reliable, disaggregated data	Insufficient focus on the needs of orphaned children
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Emergency Response Project Agreement: Goal

To contribute to the recovery and rehabilitation of disaster-affected communities by restoring essential services, infrastructure and livelihoods, and strengthening resilience to future disasters.

Vulnerable and marginalized households receive timely, inclusive, dignified assistance, including psychosocial support.

Communities regain access to essential services, facilities and livelihood opportunities.

Annex III: Rapid Need Assessment Tool

RAPID DISASTER ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

Casualties • Infrastructure Damage • Essential Needs • Response Capacity

Assessment date/time		Assessment team / organization	
Disaster type	☐ Flood ☐ Landslide ☐ Earthquake ☐ Fire ☐ Storm ☐ Other: _____	Assessment area	
Province / District		Municipality / Ward	

Purpose: Use this checklist for a rapid, first-round assessment of disaster impacts and priority needs. Record verified information where available, distinguish confirmed figures from estimates, and avoid double counting.

Status codes: F = Fully functional/intact | P = Partially damaged/functional | D = Fully damaged/non-functional | N/A = Not applicable | U = Unknown/not assessed

Priority: P1 = life-saving/immediate (0–24h) | P2 = urgent (24–72h) | P3 = early recovery (3–14 days)

1. Disaster and affected area

Item	Assessment / findings
Disaster type, onset/date & duration	
Worst affected locations (village/settlement)	
Affected locations	
Moderately affected locations	
Access constraints / safety concerns	

2. Population, casualties and vulnerability

Indicator	Total	Women/ girls	Men/ boys	Children	Older persons	Persons with disability	Notes / source
Total population / households							
Affected households							
Deaths							
Injured							
Missing							
Displaced / evacuated							
Unaccompanied or separated children							
Pregnant / lactating women							
Other high-risk groups							

3. Reported human loss by group

Group	Deaths		Injured		Missing		Displaced		Notes / verification
	Men/ boys	Women/ girls	Men/ boys	Women/ girls	Men/ boys	Women/ girls	Men/ boys	Women/ girls	
Women									
Men									
Infants (0–1 yr)									
Children (2–5 yrs)									
Children (6–14 yrs)									
Adolescents (15–17 yrs)									
Older persons									
Persons with disability									

4. Infrastructure and essential services

Service / facility	Before disaster	After disaster	Damage status	Functioning now?	Immediate need / priority
Schools					
Health facilities / PHC					
Municipality / ward office					
Roads / bridges / access routes					
Electricity / power supply					
Telecommunication / network					
Drinking-water systems					
PDS / food distribution shop					
Community emergency shelter					
Markets / commercial areas					
Other critical infrastructure					

5. Logistics, access and response capacity

Area	Available?	Capacity / condition	Location / details	Immediate action needed
Warehousing / storage				
Transport vehicles				
Fuel availability				
Office / control room / response site				

Area	Available?	Capacity / condition	Location / details	Immediate action needed
Local partners / CBOs / SHGs / youth groups				
Relief distribution mechanism				
Security / safe access				
Communication facilities				

6. Shelter, housing and camp sites

Indicator	Number / condition	Women/girls	Men/boys	Priority / remarks
Houses partially damaged				
Houses fully damaged				
People without safe shelter				
Temporary shelters / camps required				
Existing camps / collective centres				
Available land / sites for relief camps				
Local construction materials / skilled labour				

7. Livelihoods and economic impact

Impact area	Affected / damaged	Estimated scale	Main affected groups	Immediate recovery need
Agricultural crops (partial/full)				
Agricultural land / fields				
Livestock mortality / loss				
Animal shelters / assets				
Availability of animal fodder				
Small / petty businesses				
Shops / markets / trading places				
Tools, equipment or productive assets				

8. Health and nutrition

Assessment item	Status / findings	Affected population	Available response	Priority
Removal / safe management of dead bodies and debris				
Health facilities and service continuity				
Medical supplies / essential medicines				

Assessment item	Status / findings	Affected population	Available response	Priority
First aid availability				
Immunization / outreach services				
Possible disease outbreaks (e.g., diarrhoea, measles, cholera)				
Maternal, newborn and reproductive health				
Nutrition services / acute malnutrition concerns				
Mental health / psychosocial support needs				
Referral / ambulance capacity				

9. Education

Assessment item	Number / condition	Details	Immediate requirement	Priority
Schools affected / closed				
Classrooms / buildings damaged				
WASH / common facilities damaged				
Books / learning materials / uniforms damaged				
Teachers / education personnel affected				
Temporary learning space required				

10. WASH – water, sanitation and hygiene

Indicator	Status / quantity	Affected people	Gap / risk	Immediate action / priority
Drinking-water sources				
Water availability / supply				
Water quality and access				
Latrines / toilets availability				
Defecation sites / open defecation risk				
Drainage facilities				
Hygiene facilities / handwashing				
Hygiene supplies / menstrual hygiene needs				

11. Food, cooking and essential household items

Need / item	Availability	Estimated gap / affected HH	Priority	Notes
Dry ration / food stocks (target e.g., 2 weeks)				
Cooking fuel				
Cooking utensils				
Community kitchen requirement				
Clothing				
Blankets / bedding / basic household items				
Nutritional requirements / special diets				

12. Protection, social security and political / social situation

Issue	Findings / evidence	Who is affected?	Current response	Priority / referral
Access and equitable distribution of relief				
Discrimination / religion-caste-class based barriers				
Protection risks for children, women, older persons and persons with disability				
Family separation / missing persons				
GBV / exploitation / trafficking risks				
Hoarding, looting or unusual price increases				
Security / conflict / social tension				
Local authority statements / key public information				

13. Response actions already underway

Actor / organization	Location	Response / service	People reached	Remaining gap / coordination need
Local government / departments / municipality				
CBOs / SHGs / youth groups				
NGOs / INGOs				
Health agencies / facilities				
Red Cross / humanitarian agencies				
Community / volunteers				
Other responders				

14. Unmet needs and priority action plan

Sector / need	Problem / gap	Estimated people / HH affected	Priority (P1/P2/P3)	Recommended action	Responsible / partner

15. Sources, verification and evidence

Source / informant	Date/time	Information provided	Verified? (Y/N)	Method / evidence
Municipality / ward / government records				
Health facility / health post				
Police / security / emergency services				
Community leaders / volunteers				
Affected households / key informants				
NGOs / INGOs / cluster actors				
Observation / photos / GPS / secondary data				

16. Key contacts and coordination

Name / organization	Role	Location	Phone / contact	Information / support area

Name / organization	Role	Location	Phone / contact	Information / support area

17. Assessment summary and immediate recommendations

Item	Summary
Estimated affected population / households	
Total reported deaths / injured / missing	
Most critical infrastructure / service disruptions	
Top 5 urgent unmet needs	
Key safety / protection concerns	
Recommended immediate response / next assessment	

Assessment team confirmation: The information above is based on rapid observation, available records and key informant/community verification to the extent possible.

Lead assessor	Signature	Date/time	Reviewed by