



# **OXFAM IN ACTION: NEPAL FLOOD AND LANDSLIDE RESPONSE 2024**



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## INTRODUCTION

Between September 26 and 28, 2024, Nepal was hit by severe and prolonged rainfall, leading to widespread flooding, inundation, and landslides across several provinces. This disaster had a devastating human toll with 250 fatalities, 178 injuries, and 18 individuals reported missing.

The crisis also caused immense damage to homes, with over 5,916 houses completely destroyed and more than 12,477 partially damaged. Approximately 10,807 households were displaced, highlighting the extensive nature of the catastrophe.

### Economic and Infrastructure Losses

The floods and landslides also resulted in significant economic and infrastructure damage:

- Agriculture and Livelihoods: An estimated NPR 10 billion loss.
- Hydropower: 26 plants damaged, totalling a loss of 1,636.1 MW and NPR 3 billion in economic value.
- Critical Infrastructure:
  - Irrigation systems: NPR 1.35 billion
  - Bridges: NPR 1.04 billion
  - Telecommunications: NPR 151.8 million

- Public facilities: 260 schools and 52 health institutions severely affected

### Oxfam's Humanitarian Response

In response to the crisis, Oxfam in Nepal, in collaboration with local governments and humanitarian partners, including Canadian Humanitarian Assistance Fund (CHAF) initiated a multi-sectoral emergency response. This effort focused on the most affected districts, targeting 31,081 individuals across Dhading, Kavrepalanchowk, and Rautahat districts.

Oxfam, in collaboration with its partner organizations and local governments, provided comprehensive support in the affected districts, combining immediate relief with early recovery and protection efforts.

To help vulnerable families regain financial stability and boost local economies, Oxfam distributed unconditional multipurpose cash grants. Across these districts, 1,370 households each received NPR 16,659. Additionally, Cash-for-Work programs were implemented, paying affected families for their work in repairing

community infrastructure like water supply and irrigation systems, injecting short-term income while rebuilding vital services.

Oxfam's support extended to essential personal needs and seasonal requirements:

- **Dignity kits:** 1,300 dignity kits were distributed (800 in Rautahat, 500 in Kavrepalanchowk) to promote personal hygiene and uphold the dignity of women and girls.
- **Winterization kits:** 3,260 winterization kits, including blankets, warm clothing, and 250 baby sets, were provided to help families endure harsh winter temperatures. These kits reached 500 households in Dhading, 800 in Rautahat, and 752 in Kavrepalanchowk.
- **Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH):** Oxfam and its partners also focused on safe water and hygiene. They organized 38 WASH-promotion events, engaging 1,281 participants (22 sessions in Dhading and 16 in Kavrepalanchowk) to deliver crucial

messages on water safety, sanitation, and disease prevention.

- **Gender and Protection:** Protection was a key component of the response. In Rautahat, 80 survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) received tailored cash assistance to support their recovery. To foster peer support, leadership, and advocacy on protection issues, 10 women's groups were established, each with 30 members in Rautahat. Similarly, referral mechanism was established and mobilized in all three districts.

Significant efforts were made to rehabilitate infrastructure and enhance community resilience:

- **Water supply Repair and Maintenance:** 37 water-supply schemes were repaired through Cash-for-Work initiatives, adhering to local labor rates (21 in Dhading and 16 in Kavrepalanchowk).
- **Irrigation- Cash for Work:** In Kavrepalanchowk, the restoration of three irrigation canals directly benefited an additional 237 farming households, securing their livelihoods and improving local food security.
- CASH for work for 3 irrigation schemes and 5 water supply schemes, directly generating income for 109 households.
- Repair and maintenance of 37 water supply schemes.
- Formation of 10 women's groups.
- Implementation of referral mechanisms for gender-based violence survivors.
- Community awareness activities, such as street dramas and hygiene promotion sessions.

Overall, key interventions included:

- Distribution of 3,260 winterization sets and 1,300 dignity kits.
- Unconditional and multi-purpose cash support including multi-purpose cash to 1,301 vulnerable households.

This photobook showcases the incredible resilience of people in the aftermath of loss and destruction, highlighting Oxfam's and humanitarian partners' vital role in helping communities cope and rebuild their lives.



## WINTERIZATION KIT

After flood and landslide, Oxfam distributed winterization kits to 3,260 households to help them prepare for the cold weather. These kits were specifically provided to vulnerable people, including the elderly, single women, people with disabilities, pregnant women, and new mothers.

Oxfam also reclassified the winterization kits to better support pregnant women and new mothers, providing 250 of these specialized kits directly to new mothers with babies.



Dev Kumari Shrestha, a 43-year-old single mother from Dharapaani, Namobuddha Municipality-7, Kavrepalanchowk, lives with her son and her sister-in-law, who requires daily assistance due to a physical disability. Dev Kumari received a winterization kit, which she stated was of great help to her family during the colder months.



Rojina Tamang, 22, from Ratamate, Namobuddha Municipality-6 in Kavrepalanchowk district, Bagmati Province, is a mother to an eleven-month-old. Her husband, an electric technician, works seasonally for the Prime Minister Employment Program, earning approximately NPR 20,000 monthly. Rojina mentions the winterization-baby kit she received proved invaluable. She further emphasized the high quality of the items in the kit.



## DIGNITY KIT SUPPORT

The response project targeted women and girls and provided dignity kits to 1300 individuals in three districts. Orientation on use of materials of dignity kit was provided.



Sujina lives with 24 other family members in Namobuddha Municipality, while her husband works as an excavator operator. She explained how essential the support was for her family.

She first received emergency food, which was followed by a dignity kit and a winterization kit for her babies. She highlighted the practical benefits of the kits, noting that the flashlight from the dignity kit improved her mobility, and the baby soap provided was a significant improvement from the regular soap she used for her children.

## CASH SUPPORT

Oxfam aligned the response programme with unconditional and multipurpose cash in Rautahat and Kavrepalanchowk reaching out directly to 1,301 households to address the emergency needs. The Post Distribution Monitoring report assessed that more than 80% of the cash recipients used the cash to buy food, pay children's educational cost and make existing loan repayment.



Seventy-year-old Chitmaya Tamang of Kalleri Paakha, Temal Rural Municipality-1, Kavrepalanchowk district, Bagmati Province, lives with her 10-year-old granddaughter. Her husband passed away 16 years ago, and while her son and daughter-in-law live and work in Kathmandu, occasionally sending money for household expenses, Chitmaya largely manages on her own. She supplements her income by growing and selling vegetables. Chitmaya received both winterization support and unconditional cash, which she used for food supplies and her granddaughter's educational expenses.





In Kuwapani, Namobuddha Municipality-7, Kavrepalanchowk district, Bagmati Province, live three women facing unique challenges: Kanchi Maya Tamang, 80 (on the right), who never married; Kanchi Maya Tamang, 68 (in the middle), whose husband left 13 years ago and never returned; and Maili Tamang, 45 (on the left), who lives with a debilitating spinal disease that prevents her from working or even sitting comfortably. These women all received unconditional cash assistance, which they used for food supplies and medicines. They shared that this support gave them the freedom to choose how to meet their essential needs.





Binda Ghorsaine, 26, from Baseri, Namobuddha Municipality-10, Kavrepalanchowk district, Bagmati Province, experienced severe damage when a landslide swept away her front yard. In her village, two houses completely collapsed and eight more were damaged out of 48. Binda received multipurpose cash assistance, which she used to restore her yard.

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE EMBEDDED WITH RECOVERY ACTIVITIES

### Bhakundebesi Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme (WSS)

The flood severely impacted the Bhakundebesi Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme (WSS) in Bhakundebesi, Namobuddha Municipality, Kavrepalanchowk district, Bagmati Province, a rapidly growing business hub in Kavrepalanchowk, Nepal. The flood destroyed the transmission line and swept away the water pump of the lifting system, crippling a vital water source.

The Bhakundebesi WSS, which includes the Sano Soti WSS and the Chaukidanda Fedi Lift WSS sub-projects, was designed to meet the increasing water demand of the area. However, the flood destroyed the Chaukidanda Fedi lift's source structure and 12 km of its transmission lines before completion, causing an estimated 10 million NPR in damages to the 40 million NPR project. This, combined with a decrease in water flow from the Sano Soti WSS, drastically reduced the water supply for residents to just half an hour every other day post-flood.

To address the urgent need for drinking water in Bhakundebesi, a collaborative effort was launched, involving Oxfam, its district partner Shanti Jana Adarsha Sewa Kendra (SJASK), and Namobuddha Municipality.

Three new water sources were identified, and a joint plan was put into action. Oxfam and SJASK supported the construction of intake structures at these sources, a central collection chamber, an interruption chamber, a 59-meter suspended crossing, and a 4 km transmission pipeline using HDPE pipes.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed by SJASK, Namobuddha Municipality, and the Bhakundebesi Water User Committee to formalize this vital scheme. The total estimated cost for the project was NPR 3,826,839. Oxfam contributed NPR 1,558,826, and Namobuddha Municipality provided NPR 929,841 for the repair and maintenance work. The community also played a crucial role, contributing NPR 1,338,182, comprising NPR 340,000 in cash and NPR 998,182 in in-kind support.

The water supply scheme's capacity has nearly doubled with the new sources, now collecting 86,400 liters of water daily (2 liters per second for 12 hours).

With the expanded water supply, 410 households in Bhakundebesi Bazaar (wards 2, 3, 4, and 7), along with the municipality office and army staff, are now directly receiving three hours of water every other day, effectively addressing their urgent requirements.





Newly constructed water reservoir under Bhakundebesi WSS



Water transmission line crossing over the river



An interruption chamber chamber constructed under Bhakundebesi WSS to maintain water pressure



Bhakundebesi WSS water filtration plant





The repaired Bhakundebesi Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme (WSS) meets the drinking water needs of 410 households of Bhakundebesi Bazaar.



Rekha Devi Thakur, who originally hails from Siraha district has been running a snack shop with her husband in Bhakundebesi Bazaar for a decade. She is one of the beneficiaries of Bhakundebesi WSS.



## KUNEKHARKA WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION SCHEME (WSS)

A landslide had completely destroyed Kunekharka Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme (WSS) in Bethanchok Rural Municipality-3, Kavrepalanchowk district, Bagmati Province.

The repair and maintenance work of the scheme was completed at a total cost of NPR 1,642,740 with Bethanchok Rural Municipality contributing NPR 427,265, Oxfam provided NPR 1,100,000 in financial support (with technical assistance from Shanti Janadarsha Sewa Kendra), and local community labor contributing NPR 115,475.



The reservoir tank of Kunekharka WSS on the verge of collapse due to the landslide. The landslide took away the earthen foundation across the edge of the reservoir.

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households in Kunekharka are now benefiting from the restored water supply.



The repaired water reservoir with the protection wall under Kunekharka Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme (WSS). The structure was buried and damaged in mud by the landslide.



Purna Kumari Nepali and Mathura Timilsina from Bethanchowk Rural Municipality-3, Kavrepalanchowk district, Bagmati Province pose in front of the tap following the repair of Kunekharka Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme (WSS).



## SANO GIMDI LIFT WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

A landslide had swept away the main line lifting pipes, the pump house, and partially damaged the motor under Sano Gimdi Lift Water Supply Scheme in Temal Rural Municipality-05, Kavrepalanchowk district, Bagmati Province.

Oxfam and Shanti Janadarsha Sewa Kendra (SJASK) spearheaded the repair of the scheme, which was completed with a budget of NPR 1,061,354. These involved the rehabilitation of 108 meters of lifting GI pipes, the construction of a new pump house, motor repair, enhanced protection for the source and reservoir tank, and the installation of new electromechanical equipment. This ensures 150 households now directly benefit from access to drinking water.



Shankhar Budhha Lama, SJASK's Chairperson right and the technical team during the loss assessment and feasibility study of Sano Gimdi Lift Water Supply Scheme.





51-year-old Village Maintenance Worker and self-trained technician for the Sano Gimdi Lift Water Supply project, Man Bahadur Tamang, with SJASK's technical guidance, employed practical solutions to extensive damage. Instead of union sockets, he welded all 120 broken GI pipes for the lifting system. He also ingeniously used damaged pipes to form hooks and bracing as anchors, replacing concrete blocks.







Given the area's high susceptibility to landslides, significant improvements were made to the water supply scheme.





Man Bahadur Tamang uses mobile-based remote mechanism to operate and control the lifting system.







The new pump house now features newly installed electromechanical and remote-mobile based control system.



Ramsali Lama, a consumer and Treasurer of the Sano Gimdi Water User Committee, shared that Oxfam and SJASK's support was absolutely crucial; without it, they wouldn't have been able to complete the repairs. She also attended orientation on water, sanitation, and hygiene.



## JANAGAU WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

In Janagau village, Benighat Rorang Rural Municipality-in Dhading district, Bagmati Province, landslide swept away the transmission lines of a crucial water supply scheme. To restore drinking water to this remote village, Oxfam and Forum for Community Upliftment System (FOCUS) Nepal collaborated on repair efforts.



Newly constructed water tank as part of Oxfam and FOCUS Nepal's repair efforts.



Man Bahadur Ghale, 52, from Janagau shows the old water tank.



Man Bahadur Ghale, 52, and Deep Bahadur Ghale, 43, both from Janagaon, recounted the challenges they endured after a landslide swept away their drinking water supply's transmission line.





Drinking water for Janagau comes from the visible hill in the background.

## KHARI WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

Newly constructed water reservoir in Khari, Jwalamukhi Rural Municipality-5, Dhading district, Bagmati Province with Oxfam and Forum for Community Upliftment System (FOCUS) Nepal's support







Tal Bahadur Ghale (left), 35 and Ganesh Magar (in the middle), 41 discuss the repair and maintenance of drinking water supply in their village Khari, Jwalamukhi Rural Municipality-5, Dhading district, Bagmati Province





A new water reservoir has been constructed in Benighat Rorang Rural Municipality-7, Dhading district, Bagmati Province. This was necessary after the original reservoir was damaged by a landslide, which also affected the area's water sources.







Hemnath Thapaliya from Benighat Rorang Rural Municipality-7, Dhading district, Bagmati Province shares his experience following the September 2024 flood and landslide and how it affected their drinking water supply.





Another water supply scheme constructed in Benighat Rorang Rural Municipality, Dhading district, Bagmati Province. Photo: Birkha Pun Magar/Oxfam





## AARUBAARI CHAUR DRINKING WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

After a landslide destroyed their temporary drinking water pipelines, the community of Aarubaari in Namobuddha Municipality-8 faced a severe water shortage.

Oxfam and SJASK stepped in to restore the water supply. The initiative included installing 600 meters of main pipeline from the source to a new 4,000-liter reservoir tank, and extending distribution lines. This effort was funded by a NPR 583,000 contribution from Oxfam and NPR 218,000 in community contributions.

Furthermore, eight private taps and one shared tap, which serves three households was also installed. This new water scheme will directly benefit 60 people, including three senior citizens and four new mothers.

For 54-year-old Keshab Prasad Humagain, the water supply rehabilitation project in Aarubaari is a symbol of hope and community strength. He noted the project was completed in just two months, a feat driven by the community's urgent need and strong sense of ownership. Everyone was enthusiastic and united in their efforts to help with the construction.





A shared tap built for three households of Aarubaari Chaur village.



## CASH FOR WORK: GADERI KHOLA IRRIGATION SCHEME

The September flood severely impacted agricultural livelihoods in Temal Rural Municipality by destroying the irrigation canal and water reservoir of Gaderi Khola Irrigation. In response, a 700-meter canal, two 18x35 meter water ponds, and three distribution chambers were reconstructed. This vital irrigation system now directly benefits 160 farmer households, enabling them to irrigate around 40 hectares of land. Most of these households cultivate 0.40-0.50 hectares of vegetable farms, yielding approximately NPR 100,000 to 150,000 annually.

Before



After



The newly constructed irrigation channel under the scheme.





The landslide completely destroyed the reservoir tank and distribution pipelines, and the area was also covered in debris.









Musari Maya Tamang, 48, shares that since the scheme's repair, she's been growing cucumbers, cauliflower, and lettuces, selling about NPR 100,000 worth of vegetables annually. She's happy to be able to irrigate her farm and hopes for even better yields.



## ESTABLISHMENT OF GENDER BASED VIOLENCE REDUCTION REFERRAL MECHANISM

Oxfam provided direct cash support to 80 gender-based violence (GBV) survivors to help them with their immediate needs. This cash support was provided based on the recommendations of the One-stop Crisis Management Center (OCMC) at Gaur Hospital in Rautahat district.

Additionally, Oxfam has established an active referral system in all three districts to ensure survivors can get the help they need.





## ADVOCACY AND CAMPAIGN

Oxfam supported a national DRR (Disaster Risk Reduction) workshop organized by Nepal's National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority. The workshop, which focused on monsoon preparedness, brought together 356 individuals from government agencies, development partners, and civil society networks.







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