

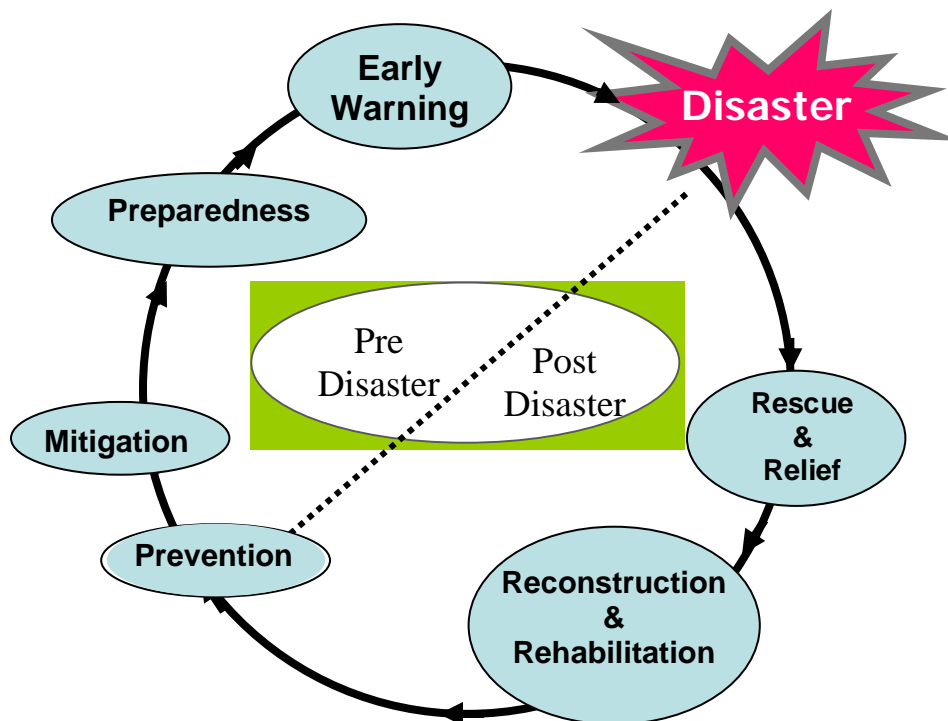
# A REPORT ABOUT DISASTER MANAGEMENT DOCUMENTARY (2006)

Submitted To:  
Action Aid Nepal  
By Media Consultancy, Nepal

Due to lack of proper disaster management various long-lasting and short term problems have been aroused in Nepal. Due to disaster poverty has increased and it has added more unexpected challenges to human life and their livelihood. Our study shows that for disaster reduction we have to centralize on pre disaster management.

## Introduction

### Disaster Management Cycle



Disaster problem is one of the serious problems. In context of Nepal, disaster management is challengeable. Every year due to natural disaster one thousand people lose their life and more than one hundred people are missing. The data of disaster events shows that if we can not manage the disaster in time, it creates the havoc situation .Every year events of disaster are increasing .It is creating poverty problem to the people from every aspects.

Every year, particularly during rainy season, the entire nation suffers from natural disasters leading to the loss of innumerable lives and property. Recent data shows that about 20 percent of the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP) are loosing due to disasters.

Disaster events are increasing due to fragile geographical and geological formation, unmanaged settlements, increasing population, economic backwardness, lack of education. Larger part of

Nepal is vulnerable to earthquake, landslide, debris flow, flood, drought and other forms of hazards. High population growth rate has been increasing vulnerability.

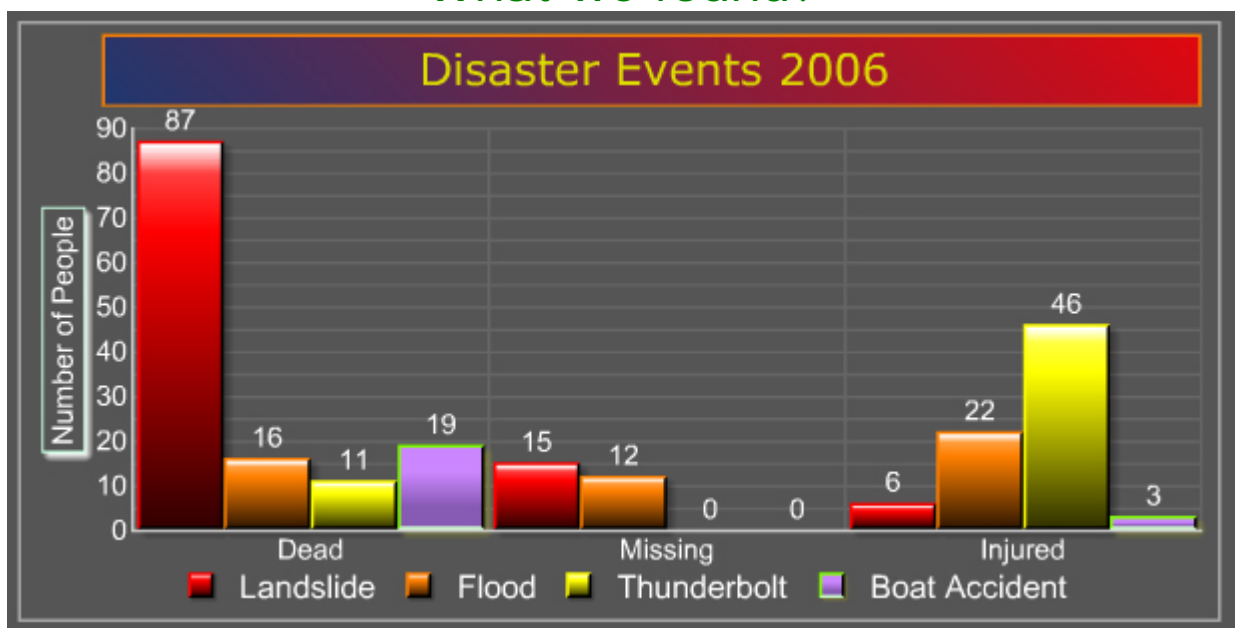
Natural disasters like floods and landslide are creating the destruction of development infrastructures like road, electricity irrigation, etc. resulting in the possibility of the wastage of investment. Poor economic condition and low literacy rate have made Nepal vulnerable to natural disaster.

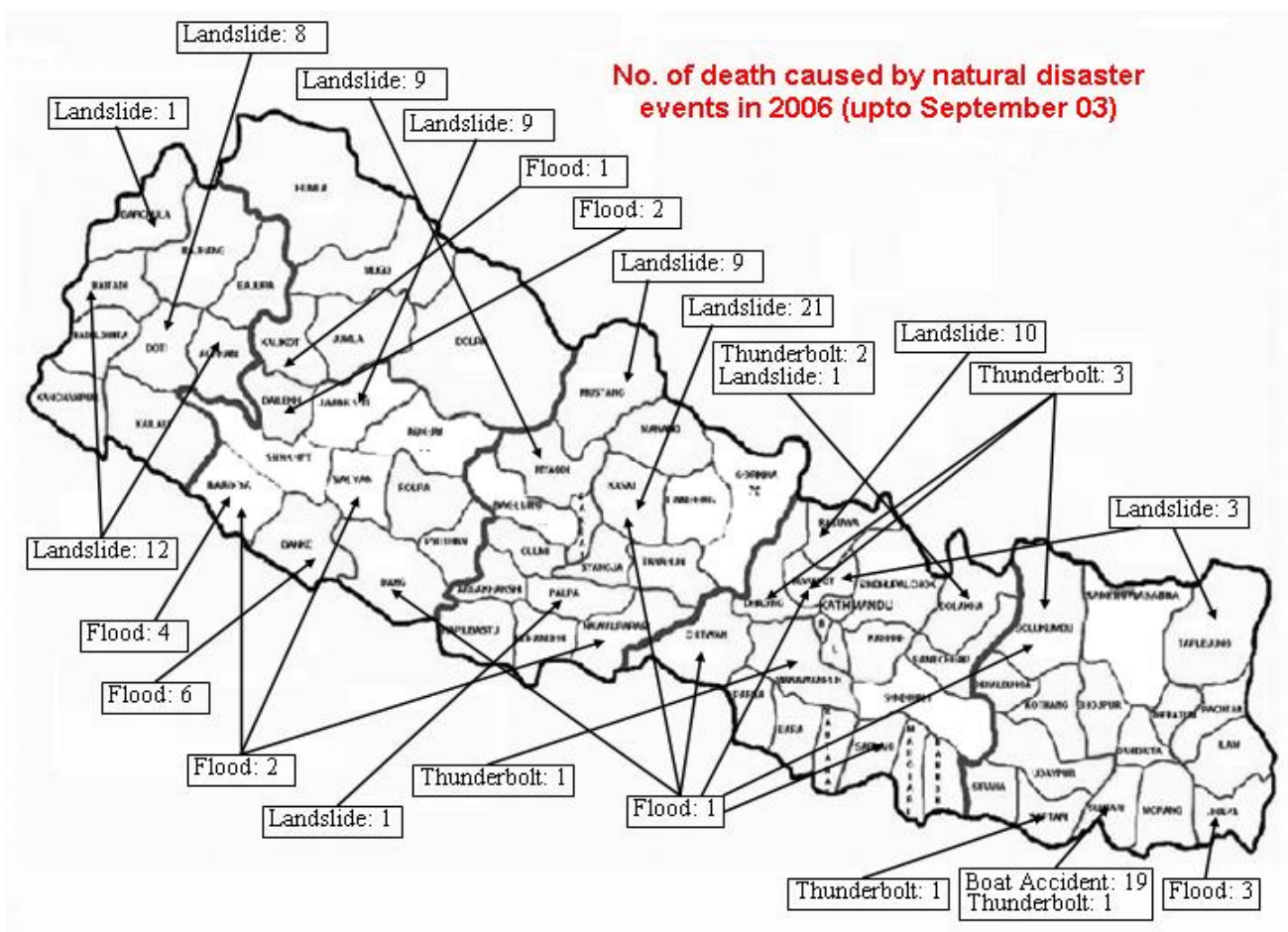
More vulnerable disasters found in Nepal are flood, landslide, fire, earthquake, drought, thunderbolt, avalanches and windstorm and GLOF. Among these, landslide and flood are causing terrible problems in Nepal. Natural disasters like floods and landslide are creating the destruction of development infrastructures like road, electricity irrigation, etc. resulting in the possibility of the wastage of investment. Thousands of people have lost their lives and countless cattle have been destroyed, lots of agricultural land and crops have been damaged. The deforestation in the hilly area has also contributed for the natural disasters like severe soil erosion, landslide and flood in Nepal.

The loss of the biodiversity as a whole is very significant and it is very difficult to evaluate its loss in terms of monetary value. The losses of productive properties such as animals, agricultural land and crops, etc. are also overwhelming. Many development activities have been seriously affected by different natural disasters in the country.

The natural disasters could not be stopped but the impact on property and human lives could be reduced with pre-planned activities. Poverty and illiteracy of the people are other human factors causing man-induced disasters in the country. Disaster directly or indirectly affects the various sectors like economic, social and political.

### What we found?





Our study finds that disaster problems are major threats in Nepal. Other countries having similar conditions of Nepal have done many works in order to solve disaster problems. The theme of World Conference on Disaster Reduction 2005 was followed by other countries. But Nepal has not followed seriously.

Disaster victims have not been organized for disaster reduction works. So, from policy makers to victims they are not serious towards disaster management. Every year in Nepal the disasters that can be controlled are repeating. Most of the people we met focused on the awareness for the disaster reduction. But awareness is not enough for controlling the disaster. Major problem for disaster management is lack of proper law.

The Natural Calamity Relief Act 1982 basically gives the priority to the post disaster activities and not much emphasis to the pre-disaster activities. In Nepal disaster problem has not been with the development activities. Political parties have not made it as issues. Political parties should take disaster as agenda. There is need of discussion on disaster issues on parliament. But these types of activities are lacking in Nepal. We could not find all related stakeholders serious towards the disaster management.

Our collected data shows that disaster reduction should be in top priority. In past, most of life and damage on physical infrastructure was caused due to disaster. Hence policy should be revised for the disaster management. Though few NGOs, INGOs and community based stakeholders are working for disaster management, their initiatives are not effective.

Lack of exercise on disaster reduction is major problem of disaster management. Disaster victims have not understood that they have rights to survive. According to our study flood is major disaster problem. But people are still living near the bank and flood prone areas. Government and political parties as well as victims are not conscious towards disaster reduction.

Last three years disaster event shows our weakness. Due to lack of disaster preparedness we are losing a lot. In 2004, 40 people were dead, 13729 families were affected due to landslide and flood. Similarly 92 people were dead, 15 were missing and 6803 families were affected due to landslide and flood. On 2006 till 1st September, 90 people were killed due to landslide and flood. Recently on August 3, 10 people of Rasuwa, on August 26, 9 people of Baitadi and on August 28, 9 people of Mustang districts were killed due to landslide. In Baitadi nine people of same family including one year small child and 75 years old man were killed due to landslide. Due to recent disaster events thousands people have been displaced and million people have been affected. These events are controllable and could be minimized if we were sensitive in time.

To minimize the effect of disaster some remarkable work should be done. The role of all related stakeholders should be identified. There is need of network that comprises from victims to policy makers. Disaster prone area should be identified and safety measures should be implemented on that area.

There are three disasters, pre disaster, during disaster and post disaster. Understanding disaster and their effects, preparation of preparedness plan, promotion of mitigation measures, risk and vulnerability analysis, resource assessment and mobilization are essential factors of pre disaster management. Similarly, during disaster search, rescue and evacuation, shelter of victims, first aid, distribution of food materials and medicine, clearance of debris, security of property, information of dissemination and checking of rumors need to be focused. Damage assessment, social and economic rehabilitation, construction of physical infrastructure is essential factor of post disaster.

Past experience shows that disaster relief activities and the few disaster-related plans were prepared at the central level without having comprehensive information about the disaster on the ground, i.e., at the local level.

It is a great challenge to protect infrastructure and property from frequent landslide and floods. Each year flood, landslide, fire, epidemics, avalanche and various other natural and man made disasters cause the casualty of thousands of human lives and destruction of physical property worth billions of rupees. On 27th August when we are preparing report, 500 people are missing due to landslide of August 27 in Achham and in other parts of western Nepal six people have been dead and twelve are missing due to flood.

The main challenges to disaster management are the absence of co-ordination of related stakeholders, the absence of a modern technology to give prior information and warning system, absence of mapping of disaster prone areas. Similarly the lack of disaster evaluation at the time of project selection, absence of sufficient co-operation and rehabilitation programmers and non-compliance with building code at the time of constructions are problems.



### Disaster Situation Report: 2002 to 2006

#### 2002

S.N.	Districts	Disaster type	Affected				
			Displaced families	House Destroyed	Dead	Missing	Injured
1.	Khotang	Landslide	245	222	47	6	16
2.	Udayapur	Landslide	124	6	2		18
		Flood	76	4	1		12
3.	Morang	Flood	300	150	2		1
4.	Saptari	Flood	300	50	1	2	10
5.	Siraha	Flood	1000	256	1		
6.	Sankhuwasava	Flood	13	2			
7.	Dhakuta	Landslide	100	13	2	12	
8.	Bhojpur	Landslide	72	15	18	2	1
9.	Sunsari	Flood	68	17	1	2	1
		Landslide	11	8			
10.	Okhaldhunga	Landslide	9	9	6		
11.	Pantcher	Landslide	3	2	1		3
12.	Jhapa	Flood	40	30			
13.	Terahthum	Landslide	30	30	9	3	5
14.	Ilam	Landslide	1	1	1		
15.	Taplejung	Landslide	161	115	26	17	10
16.	Mahottari	Flood	825	441			
17.	Sarlahi	Flood	1,138	1,110			
18.	Kavre	Landslide	1751	117	24	7	27
		Flood	249	33	2	3	4
19.	Bhaktapur	Flood	200	6	4		
20.	Kathmandu	Flood	112	52	25		3
21.	Lalitpur	Landslide	8	7	18		
		Flood	2	3	1		
22.	Dhading	Landslide	50	16	8	12	29

23.	Rautahat	Flood	693	693	3	2	4
24.	Dhanusha	Flood	1,246	1,246	2	12	55
25.	Makawanpur	Landslide	715	237	116	12	22
		Flood	285	78	14	2	14
26.	Chitwan	Flood	1,171	520	33	9	67
27.	Parsa	Flood	200	61	2		25
28.	Sindhuli	Landslide	31	7	2		
		Flood	11	3	1		
29.	Bara	Flood	12				
30.	Dolakha	Landslide	3	3	3	1	
31.	Ramechapa	Landslide	243	219	49		
32.	Nuwakot	Landslide	24	25	4		
33.	Sindhupalchok	Landslide		64	4		6
34.	Rasuwa	Landslide			2	3	4
35.	Lamjung	Landslide	67	30	2		1
36.	Kaski	Landslide	6	6	5	2	
37.	Syangja	Landslide	90	75	8		3
38.	Nawalparasi	Flood	1,200	322	1	0	
39.	Gorkha	Landslide	7	13	6	3	3
40.	Maggdi	Landslide	4	4	4		3
41.	Tanahun	Landslide	6	6		1	
42.	Gulmi	Landslide	4				
43.	Parbat	Landslide	6	6			
44.	Baglung	Landslide	6	6			
45.	Dailekh	Landslide	9	9			
46.	Jajarkot	Landslide	5	5			
<b>Total</b>			<b>12932</b>	<b>6353</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>34</b>

### 2003

S. N.	Districts	Disaster Type	People			Displaced Families	Affected Families
			Dead	Missing	Injured		
1.	Taplejung	Landslide	11		9	29	250
2.	Tehrathum	Landslide					18
3.	Morang	Thunderbolt	1				218
4.	Ilam	Flood	1				
5.	Saptari	Thundersbolt	4				
		Flood	1		2		60
6.	Udaypur	Lan`slide	8	4	6		239
		Flood	2				
7.	Okhaldhunga	Fire	1				
		Flood			1		18
8.	Solukhambu	Landslide	4				1
9.	Bhojpur	Landslide				1	11
10.	Jhapa	Thunderbolt	11		7		17
		Flood	7		21		318
		Fire	2				2

11.	Sunsari	Thunderbolt Flood	1 1	1	1		1 399
12.	Khotang	Landslide					35
13.	Sarlahi	Flood	1			600	1101
14.	Dhanusa	Thunderbolt Flood	1			1 68	
15.	Mahottari	Thunderbolt Flood	2 2		1 76		3 177
16.	Makwanpur	Landslide Flood Fire	6 2 1	1	2 1		120 28
17.	Siraha	Thunderbolt Flood	1 1		1	4	1 3,103
18.	Rauthat	Flood	1			200	60
19.	Dhading	Landslide	10	1	18	138	138
20.	Dolakha	Landslide	1		2		4
21.	Bara	Thunderbolt Flood	2 3	3	1 1		2 9
22.	Sindupalchowk	Thunderbolt Landslide Fire	5 1 1		2	30	3 78 1
23.	Kavre	Thunderbolt Landslide Fire	1 2 2		18		1 298 1
24.	Chitwan	Landslide Flood	26 8	7 4	38 10	85 258	106 115
25.	Parsa	Flood			4		13
26.	Rasuwa	Landslide Fire	22 1	2	2 1	104	106 1
27.	Nuwakot	Flood	3		9	30	140
28.	Sindhuli	Landslide				30	30
29.	Lalitpur	Fire Flood Landslide					2 36 119
30.	Kathmandu	Flood	2				
31.	Bhaktapur	Landslide Fire					7 2
32.	Ramechhap	Landslide	3		2		
33.	Myagdi	Landslide Flood	4 1		2	8	9
34.	Baglung	Landslide	2			56	28
35.	Parbat	Landslide				6	72
36.	Rupandehi	Flood	2				1
37.	Tanahun	Landslide Flood	28 1	1	8	60	
38.	Lamjung	Landslide	2				
39.	Kaski	Landslide Flood	7 2	2	4 1	12	24 1
40.	Syangja	Landslide Fire					55

41.	Nawalparasi	Flood	2	6	27	37	702
		Landslide	1		2	2	199
42.	Gulmi	Landslide	10		4		38
43.	Gorkha	Landslide	24		4	74	76
44.	Palpa	Landslide	1		2		
45.	Argakhanchi	Landslide				15	
46.	Dang	Thunderbolt	2		1		2
		Flood	10	2	30	55	386
		Fire	1		1		1
47.	Humla	Landslide			2		110
48.	Rukum	Landslide	1		2		1
49.	Pyuthan	Landslide	6			15	41
		Fire	1				2
50.	Banke	Flood					325
51.	Syalan	Landslide					32
52.	Dailekh	Landslide	4				
53.	Rolpa	Landslide	11	16	1		13
54.	Surkhet	Landslide				109	200
55.	Kailali	Thunderbolt	1		1		1
		Flood	3	1	13		315
		landslide	1		4		180
56.	Kanchanpur	Flood		3		8	89
		Landslide		2		4	46
57.	Baitadi	Flood			3	7	28
58.	Doti	Landslide	3		2		40
		Flood	2		1		16
59.	Jumla	Landslide	1		2		
60.	Bajura	Landslide					55
<b>Total</b>			<b>300</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>2,198</b>	<b>10,480</b>

### 2004

S.N.	District	Disaster type	People			Displaced families	Affected families
			Dead	Missing	Injured		
1.	Pyuthan	Landslide	3				17
2.	Sarlahi	Flood	10			300	300
3.	Dhanusa	Flood	3		12	1,666	1,700
4.	Mahottari	Flood				400	515
5.	Rauthat	Flood	3			11	100
6.	Udayapur	Flood	1	1		36	535
7.	Saptari	Flood				9,500	10,000
8.	Sunsari	Flood				60	172
9.	Sidhuli	Flood	1			28	15
10.	Siraha	Flood	3	1		100	245
11.	Bara	Flood					
12.	Makawanpur	Landslide/Flood	15	5	3	26	32
13.	Jhapa	Flood		1			
	<b>Total</b>		<b>39</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12,127</b>	<b>13,631</b>

### 2005



S.N.	District	Disaster type	People			Displaced families	Affected families
			Dead	Missing	Injured		
1.	Dolakha	Landslide	2			1	1
2.	Rasuwa	Landslide				15	17
3.	Kapilbastu	Boat Accident	46	34			87
4.	Banke	Flood					488
5.	Humla	Landslide	6	5		1	1
6.	Siraha	Thunderbolt Flood	1 1	1			2,010
7.	Nuwakot	Landslide/Thunderbolt	10		48	18	877
8.	Kavre	Landslide	5		2		8
9.	Ilam	Landslide	5			3	10
10.	Rauthaut	Boat Accident	1	9		150	
11.	Sarlahi	Flood	1				
12.	Jhapa	Flood/Boad Accident	3			17	
13.	Dang	Thunderbolt/Flood	3		1		808
14.	Mahottari	Flood				13	125
15.	Morang	Flood	4				
16.	Nawalparasi	Landslide		1			
17.	Saptari	Flood/Fire					200
18.	Udayapur	Flood/Boad Accident	5	6		50	700
19.	Sunsari	Flood				8	64
20.	Sindhuli	Flood/Landslide/Fire	2	2			33
21.	Parsa	Flood	4				
22.	Ramechap	Landslide	2				
23.	Solukhumbu	Landslide	2			18	
24.	Dhankuta	Flood				1	9
25.	Dhadhing	Windstrom	1				
26.	Kanchanpur	Flood					143
27.	Tanahun	Fire	1		1		
28.	Baitadi	Landslide	3		1	73	109
29.	Doti	Landslide	2		2		
30.	Dadeldhura	Flood/Landslide/Fire	32		22	200	1,200
31.	Manang	Snowfall	18				
<b>Total</b>			<b>160</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>6890</b>

### Up to - September 03, 2006

S.N.	District	Disaster Type	People			Displaced families	Affected families
			Dead	Missing	Injured		
1.	Nuwakot	Thunderbolt Flood Landslide	3 1 3		4		3 1 1
2.	Sunsari	Boat Accident Thunderbolt	19 1		3 5		25
3.	Kathmandu	Flood					57
4.	Sarlahi	Flood	1			2	3
5.	Siraha	Flood	1				1
6.	Saptari	Thunderbolt	1				1
7.	Palpa	Landslide	1				1

8.	Manang	Landslide				7	7
9.	Kaski	Landslide Flood	21 1	7			
10.	Dolakha	Thunderbolt Landslide	2 1		2		4
11.	Taplejung	Landslide	3			1	1
12.	Chitwan	Flood	1				1
13.	Dhading	Landslide Thunderbolt	3		2 26		1
14.	Rauthat	Flood				26	56
15.	Solukhumbu	Landslide					70
16.	Jhapa	Flood	3		22		
17.	Beetadi	Landslide	12				
18.	Rasuwa	Landslide	10				
19.	Dailekha	Flood	2				
20.	Makawanpur	Thunderbolt	1		9		
21.	Sallan	Landslide		3			
22.	Kavre	Thunderbolt		5			
23.	Kalikot	Flood	1				
24.	Bajura	Flood					25
25.	Aacham	Landslide	12			150	1000
26.	Doti	Landslide	8				
27.	Bardia	Landslide	4	12		1800	40
28.	Bake	Flood	6				5868
29.	Nawalparassi	Flood	2			140	
30.	Mustang	Landslide	9		3		
31.	Darchula	Landslide	1		1		
32.	Jajarkot	Landslide	3				
<b>Total</b>			<b>137</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>2126</b>	<b>7166</b>

Sources: Media Consultancy, Nepal Red Cross Society, Ministry of Home Affairs and different newspaper reports.



## Case Study

### 1. Kishun Dev Yadav, Dhanusha

I was landlord and rich man of this village. But I am finished. Due to flood 15-16 Bighas of my fertile land has changed to barren land. Total village development committee is in flooded state

(flooded state). I feel weeping when I remember rainfall is coming near. After monsoon starts I can not sleep whole night. I used to grow lot of grains but I am living now by farming watermelon. I am used to weeping daily when I see my fertile land changing into barren land. Before flood, the village was very good .Flood had done lot of damage. I am not in state of sending my children and grandchildren in school. What an ill fate! I am living by keeping a small shop near town area. We cannot to do thieving and robbery. What to do?

My small grandchildren also go for work .We need to live. What to do? I met local leaders, MPs and minister in order to solve the disaster problem. All nodded head but they did not provide any help.

## 2. Sonam Chiring Lama

President

Flood Victim Coordination Committee

We lived in hilly area of Makawanpur. We were living there from very long time. In 2059 B.S. there was huge impact of landslide and flood. 10 Village Development Committees were highly affected .There was a big loss. From one home, 15 family members were dead. Only in Kakada VDC 59 people were dead.

Then we were displaced from that place. More than 700 houses are living in Manahari as landless state. This area is also not safe for us. We do not have right in this place also.

Government has not taken care of disaster victims. In order to get rights we have formed coordination committee. From 2060 we are giving pressure for our management. Once we had organized big protest rally and submitted memorandum to the government. But till now we have not got any responses.

## 3. Victim of Makawapur Manahari

Since four years we have been affected from flood of Manahari. Now sand layer of the stream has increased increasing threats. Manhari khola swept away people in front of my eye.

Always home get flooded due to the flood. When flood enters in home, we run away. We can not utilize farming due to flood. Government does not take care of victims like us. Some time we get relief materials. We do not have knowledge about preparedness.

## 4. Victim of Rupendhehi

Low land of hilly region was suitable for us to live. But 57 houses were destroyed due to landslide. In 2055 B.S. my husband was swept away by flood in front of my eye. At that time we got some relief materials.

Villagers did campaign for rehabilitation. Pressures were given to Chief District Officer, District Development Committee. We met to Prime minister also. Then few houses of our

village got settlement. But many houses are still in this area. We do not know how to prevent from disaster. We want support from all.

## 5. Ram Singh Yadav

Janakpur

Social Development and Research Centre

In Janakpur area floods have caused lot of losses including lives of people and physical damage. In 2052 B.S. 200 hectares of land were destroyed, 6 people died, 450 families were displaced due to Kamala river. On 2060 B.S. 2800 families were displaced due to flood impact of Kamala, Charnatha, Baluwa, Bini and Jalad.

The disaster problem remains same since 2052 B.S. Victims have not got any support and each year they get more harm. Disaster should be raised as national issues. We have organized this network on 2061 B.S. in order to establish victim's rights.

## 6. Janak Sharma

Bee group Nepalgunj

In our place there is a big impact of fire and flood. Laxmanpur of Rapti bank is most affected disaster area. In this place there are many jointed houses of straw roof belonging to Abhadhi group. In 2004 houses caught fire. In same place 45 houses caught fire on 2005. There is culture of cooking food outside and keeping fire outside of home. Therefore there is danger of fire every time.

After Laxmanpur Badh flood problem has increased. Seven village development committees out of 9 VDCs get affected from flood. No one knows the safe measures of disaster in this village.

## 7. Krishna Hari Paneru

Sarlahi

Participatory Development Helping Committee

Sarlahi is disaster prone area. In 1999 there was problem of flood, fire, epidemic disease, cold frost. In 2060 B.S Lakhandehi river has deserted many land area. People are feeling toward disaster control. Disasters management committee has been formed on 12 village development committees. School children are getting knowledge about how to be safe from disaster. Villages are still in very risky stage.



## Versions of Different People

NGO related persons working in disaster

### 1. Amod Mani Dixit (NSET)

Disaster can be predicted earlier. According to it we should work. To control disaster individual person and state chief have equal responsibility. We are affected form manmade disaster also. For example earthquake is not disaster. Disaster can be controlled if people become aware. To reduce disaster risk factor should be recognized and knowledge sharing should be done. Government must make system in order to fight against disaster.

### 2. Ajaya Dixit

Director

Nepal Water Conservation Foundation

Water related disaster can be predicted. The ratio of rainfall is different .Some time heavy rainfall occurs, that creates a big damage. Since from Ashar to Bhadra there is more rainfall we need to prepare for that period. Preparedness procedure and awareness should reach to grass root level.

### 3. Deependra Purush Dhakal (President NCDM Kathmandu)

Government has not done preparedness for disaster. Many disasters can be predicted earlier. If we work earlier its effect can be reduced. Relief work, compensation and rehabilitation work of government is also not effective. Law is incomplete in Nepal. To make disaster management effective law should be revised and new rule and regulations should be formed.

### 4. Ramchandra Neupane (ECO-Nepal Kathmandu)

Regular disaster problem is more in Nepal. It is only since four-five years discussions about disaster reduction and management has been raised. In this issues government has not done remarkable works. Government is focusing only on rescue and distributing relief

materials. There is no proper law for disaster management. Awareness is key component for disaster reduction. It should reach to the rural level.

#### 5. Surya Bahadur Thapa (Coordinator Disaster Management Network, Friends Service Council Nepal, Lalitpur)

Disaster is related to development. In Nepal there is not clear concept about disaster. There is not realization about disaster from grass root to policy maker level .We have made network for the voice of disaster victims.

#### 6. Prof. Dr Jibraj Pokharel (Engineering College, Kathmandu)

Most of the disaster can be forecasted earlier. To be safe from disaster earlier preparedness is essential. For it all should concentrate on preparedness. To prevent form disaster there is need to develop policy.

#### 7. Yagya Prasad Dahal, President, (Association for Natural Disaster Victims, Rautahat)

Disaster has brought a lot of impacts. Disasters Victims are headache to the country. Social images of people have been lost due to disaster. Disaster victims have not got their rights. To establish rights of the victims and to change the government policy we have established this association.

#### 8. Sobina Lama (Lumanti Program Kathmandu)

There are a lot of problems of disaster. We should work for minimizing its risk.

#### 9. Shrawan Choudhary (NawaPrabhat Social Family, Udayapur)

For us flood is main problem. Near Koshi River there is a big impact of flood and landslide. For it river should be managed. But most important factor is awareness.

#### 10. Rajeshowr Chourasiya ( Rural Development Centre, Bara)

Flood is major problem. Fire is also another problem in our area. In our area disaster is taken as curse of the god. To reduce disaster problem we have to eliminate traditional thinking and increase awareness campaign.

#### 11. Bhesraj Pokharel (UPKA Nepal, Sunsari)

Flood has caused big problem in our area. For its reduction awareness campaign should be conducted.

## 12. Sabita Shakya (Women Upliftment Center, Rupendhehi)

In Rupendhehi landside has caused big problems. Specially landslide of Jyotinar has caused many problems to the community. In 2055 B.S., 47 houses were displaced due to landslide. To control landslide physical infrastructure should be made, village should be shifted and awareness program should be conducted.

### **Government of Nepal related persons working in disaster**

#### 1. Thir Bahadur G.C (Section Officer Home Ministry)

Home Ministry works in rescue operation. There is network from Home Ministry to District Administration Office. Home Ministry does not work in preparedness. It conducts activities according to Natural Disaster Rescue Act 2039. This act has focused on rescue work rather than preparedness. Due to which we are not working effectively in disaster management.

#### 2. Narayan Prasad Bhattarai (Director General, Department of Water Induced Disaster Prevention)

Water Induced disaster is the most dangerous problem in Nepal. In order to be safe from water induced disaster earlier preparedness is essential. People should not stay in risk areas. Government should also work to control in disaster prone area. To prevent from disaster problems people should be aware. The most important thing is law. Government has formed river management policy but there are no rules and regulations.

#### 3. Mani Ratna Shakya (Senior Meteorologist, Department of Meteorology)

We forecast climate in time. But people do not take it seriously. If we take consideration of climate we can be safe from disaster. Flow of monsoon is uncertain in Nepal due to geographical condition. Sometime due to heavy rain disaster problems have increased.

### **INGO related persons working in disaster**

#### 1. Dr. Sibesh Chandra Regmi Action Aid Nepal

Due to geographical condition the impact of disaster is high in Nepal. The compensation provided to victim people will not be enough. Therefore we need to concentrate reducing the loss of disaster. It is essential to give priority for disaster preparedness. Disaster is priority sector of Action Aid. Action Aid Nepal is exercising with its partner through out country for reducing loss of disaster and making preparedness. There is need of

implementation of long lasting program for disaster preparedness, relief, reducing disaster impacts. AAN is giving awareness to people how to safe from disaster and how to make disaster preparedness.

## 2. Shasanka Sadi Action Aid Nepal

We can control disaster by more concentrating on preparedness. We need to build capacity of community and institutions so that we can be prepared for any kind of emergency situation. Similarly we need to change the policy ensuring the right of poor people to provide compensation and other types of support. We are creating awareness, advocating with government for making better policy and building the capacity of disaster community. If community has some kind of skill and resources they can be safe from emergency situation.

## 3. Shyam Sundar Jnavaly Action Aid Nepal

In order to mitigate the risk of disaster, preparedness is essential. State is sensitive about this issue. Law and regulation of Nepal are incomplete and not sufficient to address the disaster problem. There is need of integrated system for disaster management. Enough information, knowledge, skill and effective policy is needed. We also should relate victim rights to development.

## 4. Rahul Sengupta UNDP

Disasters have long history in Nepal. General public and civil society need to ensure to reduce the risk of disaster. General people need to know the basic cause of disaster. It is important that each people have their own role to make safe from disaster. We need to support the community to guarantee safety their living habitat and agricultural community.

## Government Initiatives

There are few provisions for disaster management. The Natural Calamity (Relief) Act, 1982 has imparted the right and responsibility carrying out the disaster response and relief activities to government. The directives and issued by government is mandatory to the organizations, agencies and the citizens of the and the targeted territory. The role of the international community in a disaster response



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is



subsidiary to that of the Government and is intended to enhance the capacity of the Government when requested to do so.

The Act constituted an apex body of the country called the Central Natural Disaster Relief Committee (CNDRC) headed by the Home Minister, to advise the government in formulation of the national disaster management policy, plan and programmes and to coordinate in implementation. Following a disaster, this committee meets as and when necessary to address the needs of the affected population and the matters related to all sectors (e.g. food and agriculture, health, shelter, safe drinking water, communications etc.). The CNDRC is also involved in coordinating the organizations providing support to the disaster-relief efforts.

Similarly there is Relief and Treatment Sub-committee headed by Minister of Health, Supplies, Settlements and Rehabilitation Sub-committee headed by Minister of Housing and Physical Planning at central level. This act has made provision for the establishment of regional committees as and when required. Similarly at the district level, the District Natural Disaster Relief Committee (DNDRC) is the active and permanent body for coordinating relief support.

Government has established the Department of Water Induced Disaster Prevention (DWIDP) in 2000. This Department carries out river training and landslide works along with water induced disaster management activities in different rivers of the country. Besides, the Department of Forests and the Department of Soil and Water Conservation both under the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation also carry out various activities in order to mitigate natural disasters such as soil erosion, landslide and flood caused by deforestation throughout the country.

There are other legal provisions Building Code 1994, National Action Plan 1996 and Relief Norms for disaster management. But they are not found to be effective and properly implemented.

We feel that these legal provisions must be implemented effectively.

## **Role of AAN**

International non government organizations have major role in disaster management. Among them, Action Aid Nepal, UNDP, Oxfam, Practical Action, European Commission are remarkable. Since 1992 after AAN started work in Nepal, the government efforts have been more effective. At present Action Aid Nepal is providing support to the formation of disaster preparedness network, lobbying government for making better disaster management policy, building capacity of disaster affected community,



creating awareness etc. Similarly it activates its partner organizations through out the country for disaster preparedness and management.

## Role of Media in Disaster Management

While the disaster is on, the media can also play the role of relaying the measures that are being taken and monitoring them, cautioning the affected or to be affected people. In the case of disasters in its various stages, the role of media becomes vital. The public often relies on the media for information and in situations like hurricanes and other disasters, people have been found to be glued to radios and televisions to get the latest news. Media, in the case of a disaster, firstly acts as a channel of information communicating the facts from the site to other parts of the nation/world. It acts as a watchdog for the stages of the disaster management which takes place after a disaster.

It provides public service links (ex Gujarat relative calls) and various emergency information and facts. It moulds the perceptions of the receivers of the information about the situation, the effectiveness of the management of the situation and also the actors in the system. It advocates for coherent emergency preparedness planning setting up of national and sub-national task force. Maintaining good media relations is important in management of any emergency.



## Recommendations:

### 1. Policy must be revised.

The present law and policy are not suitable according to present period. Law and policy should be revised according to the time. Present laws have focused on past disaster activities rather than pre disaster activities. Due to which disaster management has not been effective.

### 2. Identification of partner's role

The role of GOs, NGOs, INGOs and other related sectors must be identified. At present most of them are working in their own way and their contributions in disaster management have been found weak. Since their role and duties are not specified, their working style is not effective.

### 3. Community involvement

There is not direct community involvement in disaster management. It is essential for their direct involvement in controlling the disaster. The role and participation of local people should be included in priority. Programs should be conducted having mutual participation with community.

### 4. Disaster Preparedness Network

For disaster management there is a need of effective disaster preparedness network. In the network government, non government organizations and local people should be involved.

### 5. Monitoring and evaluation

The monitoring and evaluation of every program must be done. All the activities of the related stakeholders in disaster management must be monitored and evaluate. The system of disaster management should be changed to make it more effective.

### 6. Advocacy Campaign

Disaster management must be conducted as a campaign. For it, advocacy plays vital role. Community based awareness should be made more effective and enlarged. Media should be used fully for this purpose. In media advocacy documentary, magazine, newspaper, radio program, TV program can be launched. Field based advocacy can also be done. Street drama, folk music, youth campaign program, school program can be used.

### 7. Use of Modern Technology

In Nepal, space technology has not been widely used for disaster management. Modern technology including mapping of disaster prone area, early warning system should be established.

## Conclusion

The efforts and activities being done in disaster management are not sufficient to control disaster. To solve the present crisis all related stakeholder must widen the activities. The documentary prepared is not totally perfect. To produce disaster documentary is not easy. To make it totally perfect, it takes more time as well as more amounts. This documentary is one of the initiatives. We provide sincere thanks to Action Aid Nepal for providing opportunity to make this documentary.

*Please feel free to send comments, suggestions or feedbacks.*

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