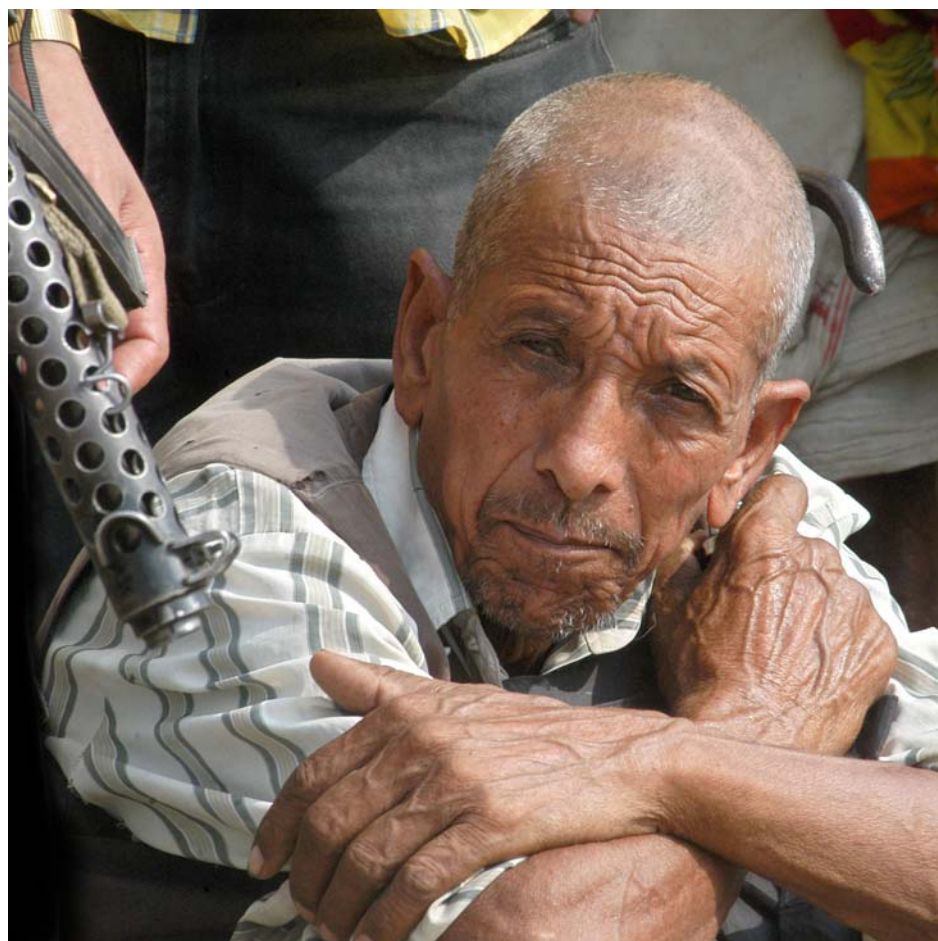


Nepal

2005 - 2006



Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP)



Nepal

2005 - 2006



Narendra Shrestha – Kantipur Publications - 2005

Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP)



Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP)

The CAP is much more than an appeal for money. It is an inclusive and coordinated programme cycle of:

- strategic planning leading to a Common Humanitarian Action Plan (CHAP);
- resource mobilisation (leading to a Consolidated Appeal or a Flash Appeal);
- coordinated programme implementation;
- joint monitoring and evaluation;
- revision, if necessary; and
- reporting on results.

The CHAP is a strategic plan for humanitarian response in a given country or region and includes the following elements:

- a common analysis of the context in which humanitarian action takes place;
- an assessment of needs;
- best, worst, and most likely scenarios;
- stakeholder analysis, i.e. who does what and where;
- a clear statement of longer-term objectives and goals;
- prioritised response plans; and
- a framework for monitoring the strategy and revising it if necessary.

The CHAP is the foundation for developing a Consolidated Appeal or, when crises break or natural disasters occur, a Flash Appeal. Under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator, the CHAP is developed at the field level by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Country Team. This team mirrors the IASC structure at headquarters and includes UN agencies, and standing invitees, i.e. the International Organization for Migration, the Red Cross Movement, and NGOs that belong to ICVA, Interaction, or SCHR. Non-IASC members, such as national NGOs, can be included, and other key stakeholders in humanitarian action, in particular host governments and donors, should be consulted.

The Humanitarian Coordinator is responsible for the annual preparation of the consolidated appeal *document*. The document is launched globally each November to enhance advocacy and resource mobilisation. An update, known as the *Mid-Year Review*, is to be presented to donors in July 2006.

Donors provide resources to appealing agencies directly in response to project proposals. The **Financial Tracking Service (FTS)**, managed by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), is a database of donor contributions and can be found on www.reliefweb.int/fts

In sum, the **CAP is about how the aid community collaborates to provide civilians in need the best protection and assistance available, on time.**

ORGANISATIONS PARTICIPATING IN CONSOLIDATED APPEALS DURING 2005:

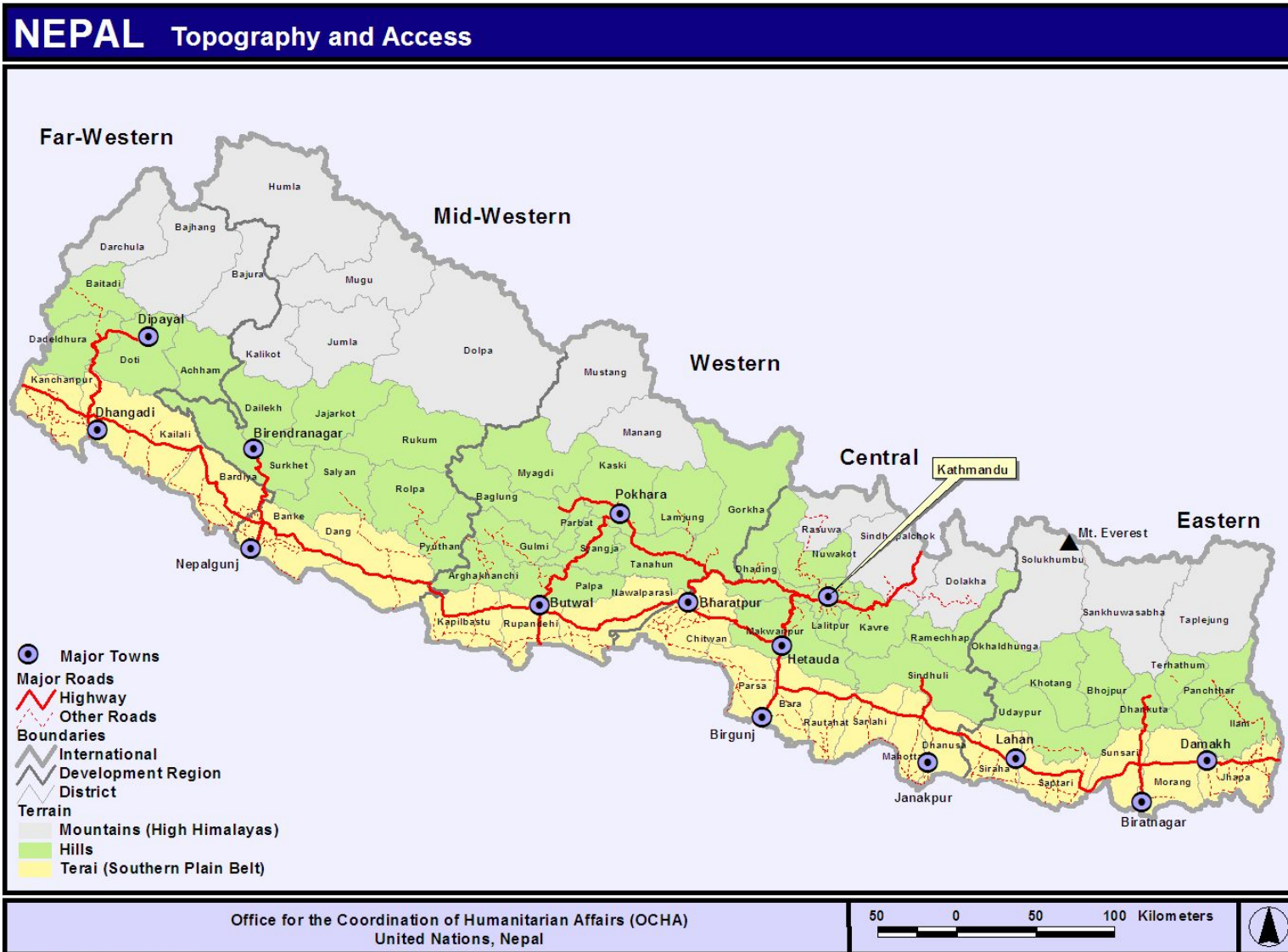
AAH/ACF/ACH	CORDAID	HDIG	LWF Nepal	OSIL	UNDSS (previously UNSECOORD)
ABS	CPA-LIRA	HDO	MAG	OXFAM	UNEP
ACORD	CPAR	HFe.V	Mani Tese	PACT	UNESCO
ACR	CPCD	HI	MAT	PCI	UNFPA
ACTED	CRC	HIA	MCI	PIN	UN-HABITAT
ADRA	CREAF	HKI	MDM	PSF	UNHCR
AET	CRS	Horn Relief	MEDAIR	Relief International	UNICEF
Africare	CWS	HWA	MEMISA Belgium	RFEP	UNIDO
ALISEI	Danchurchaid	ICMC	MERLIN	RPDP	UNIFEM
AMREF	DDG	IFRC	MH e.V.	RUFUO	UNJLC
ARC	DENAL	ILO	MONEC	SBF	UNMAS
Atlas Logistique	DEPROSC/Nepal	IMC	NAWF	SC Alliance	UNODC
AVSI	DRC	INTERSOS	NCA	SCU	UNOSAT
CA	EM/DH	IOM	NCDM	SDA	UNRWA
CAM	EMERGENCY	IR	NDO	SERLO	UNV
CARE INT	EMSF	IRC	NE	SFP	VESTA
CARITAS	ERM	IRD	NI	SIMAS	VETAID
CCF	FAO	IRIN	NPA	Solidarités	VSF
CCM	FAR	ISDR	NRC	SOLO	WACRO
CEASOP	FCE	Julikei	NSET	SSLS	WANEP/APDH
CENAP	FSD	JVSF	OA	TASO	WE
CESVI	GAA (DWH)	KOC	OC	TEARFUND	WFP
CIRID	GPI	KPHF	OCHA	TEWPA	WHO
COLFADHEMA	HA	LIBA	OCPH	UNA	World Concern
COOPI	HABEN	LSTG	OHCHR	UNAIDS	WVI
				UNDP	

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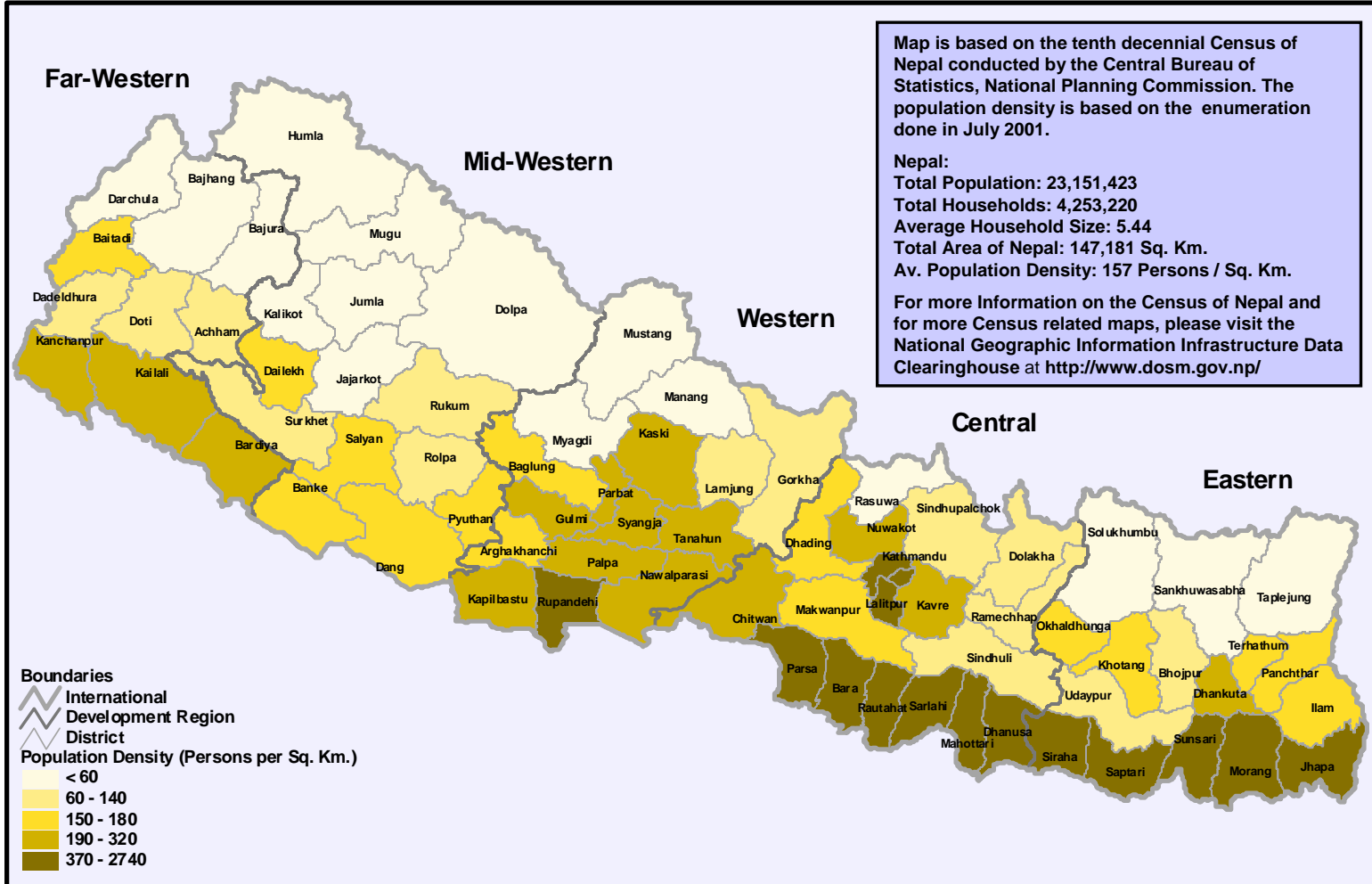
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PROJECT SUMMARY SHEETS ARE IN A SEPARATE VOLUME ENTITLED “PROJECTS”



NEPAL Population Density (2001)



Data Source: CBS (Census 2001)

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since the Communist Party of Nepal/Maoist [CPN (Maoist)] started its 'people's war' in 1996, more than 12,000 people have been killed and many tens of thousands forced to leave their homes. Although Nepal is not currently facing a humanitarian crisis in the classic understanding of the term, the worsening situation is giving rise to serious humanitarian and human rights concerns.

This is the first time that a Consolidated Appeal (CA) has been prepared for Nepal and this appeal presents a variety of new projects to address current humanitarian gaps not covered by planned development interventions, particularly the needs of the most vulnerable conflict affected populations and the building of an in-country emergency and disaster response capacity. It also includes the ongoing humanitarian actions for refugee and asylum-seekers in Nepal, as well as the resources necessary for the establishment of the Nepal Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

The political situation shows no imminent signs of improving with a hardening of positions by the three main protagonists — the Communist Party of Nepal/Maoist [CPN (Maoist)], the Government and the mainstream political parties. Analysts suggest that neither the Royal Nepalese Army (RNA) nor the CPN (Maoist) can secure an outright military victory. Following the royal takeover of 1 February 2005 and the clampdown on political party activism, the seven major parties have hardened their positions against the King's executive rule. The monarchy retains control of the RNA. As this appeal was being finalised the CPN (Maoist) announced a unilateral ceasefire for three months, from 3 September. The initial Government response has been highly sceptical of the announcement.

Several critical indicators in Nepal have bordered on emergency levels for years, with largely structural root causes. This appeal has been put together to prevent Nepal sliding into a full-blown complex humanitarian emergency.

There have been widespread human rights abuses by both parties to the conflict. These have been universally condemned. Following intense international pressure, an agreement was signed on 10 April 2005 between the Nepali Government (His Majesty's Government of Nepal [HMGN]) and the OHCHR to establish a major human rights monitoring mission in the country.

In addition to the humanitarian challenges emerging out of the conflict, Nepal's mountainous terrain means that it continues to be vulnerable to natural disasters including landslides, floods, and earthquakes. Mitigation and response efforts to these disasters are becoming increasingly difficult in the present environment.

Nepal is in a unique situation. Many long-standing development programmes supported by bilateral and multilateral donors and frequently implemented through the government, continue with some success despite the deteriorating situation. Many have undergone 'conflict sensitivity' reorientation. Despite this, there are significant response gaps in providing essential assistance to conflict-affected populations. Every effort has been made to ensure that the activities proposed here are complementary to, and supportive of, other ongoing longer-term development activities.

The Common Humanitarian Action Plan (CHAP) forms the basis of this appeal, and is hinged on the four strategic priorities of:

- improving access to vulnerable groups and expanding operational space for humanitarian and development activities;
- improving monitoring of and responses to human rights protection concerns;
- providing basic humanitarian services to those in greatest need — where possible, linked to longer-term initiatives; and,
- developing systems for common assessment, needs analysis, and the coordination of emergency preparedness and response.

This plan covers the period October 2005–December 2006 and is for a total of almost **US\$ 65 million** with projects presented by 25 different organisations. It has been developed in a collective manner with organisations within the United Nations system, international and local NGOs, the Red Cross Movement, government representatives, and the many donor organisations that have a significant operational presence in Nepal. Over 40 representatives of these different organisations joined a three-day workshop at the end of June 2005 to agree on the core elements of the CHAP. Additional planning and preparatory works have been conducted in sectoral working groups in close liaison with government and donor representatives.

<p>Consolidated Appeal for Nepal 2005</p> <p>Summary of Requirements - By Appealing Organisation as of 23 September 2005 http://www.reliefweb.int/fts</p>

Compiled by OCHA on the basis of information provided by the respective appealing organisation.

Appealing Organisation	Original Requirements
CAM	220,000
CARE Nepal	470,000
DEPROSC/Nepal	498,682
FAO	2,875,000
ILO	988,750
LWF Nepal	1,149,246
MDM	185,000
NCDM	85,000
NRC	400,000
NRCS	756,587
NSET	173,676
OCHA	3,170,000
OHCHR	11,946,250
OXFAM UK	215,000
SC Alliance	3,032,551
SC Alliance and PLAN Nepal	1,062,121
UNDP	2,236,000
UNDSS (previously UNSECOORD)	836,400
UNESCO	200,000
UNFPA	1,890,000
UNHCR	9,230,442
UNICEF	7,287,823
UNIFEM	499,500
WE	830,000
WFP	12,842,045
WHO	1,425,952
Grand Total	64,506,025

**Consolidated Appeal for
Nepal 2005**
Summary of Requirements - by Sector
as of 23 September 2005
<http://www.reliefweb.int/fts>

Compiled by OCHA on the basis of information provided by the respective appealing organisation.

Sector Name	Original Requirements
AGRICULTURE	3,225,000
COORDINATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES	6,444,335
ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INFRASTRUCTURE	2,900,432
EDUCATION	4,761,208
FOOD	9,127,457
HEALTH	4,487,101
MINE ACTION	159,100
MULTI-SECTOR	11,559,913
PROTECTION/HUMAN RIGHTS/RULE OF LAW	17,671,264
SECURITY	1,329,400
SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS	1,488,600
WATER AND SANITATION	1,352,215
Grand Total	64,506,025

2. THE 2005/06 COMMON HUMANITARIAN ACTION PLAN

2.1 THE CONTEXT AND ITS HUMANITARIAN CONSEQUENCES

2.1.1 The Context

The CPN (Maoist) declared a unilateral ceasefire on 3 September 2005 during the final preparation stages of this appeal. The initial response from the Government was that it “sees no reason to be assured” by the CPN (Maoist) ceasefire announcement. Much of this context chapter relates to the situation in Nepal as it stands in early September 2005. The situation remains volatile; for the latest updates visit the UN Nepal Information Platform – www.un.org.np

Nepal’s nine-year-old conflict has deepened since the ceasefire between government forces and the CPN (Maoist) collapsed in August 2003. Around 12,000 Nepalis have been killed since 1996 with as many as 1,100 in the first six months of 2005¹.

The insurgency, which had its origins in the poverty-stricken Mid-Western Development Region, now affects the whole country. Nepal’s rural people are enduring the brunt of the conflict as they are caught between CPN (Maoist) intimidation, forced recruitment, and extortion on one hand, and RNA reprisals on the other.

Tens of thousands of Nepalis continue to flee the conflict. There has been no formal registration of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), and the long history of labour migration across the country, coupled with the open border with India makes accurate assessment of the true number of IDPs a challenge; estimates suggest that up to 200,000² Nepalis have been internally displaced, with up to two million having moved to India since the conflict started.

In addition to the continued low-level fighting, regular shutdowns (bandhs³) and blockades have been enforced by the CPN (Maoist) and occasionally by other political parties. These continue to have a major impact on most road traffic leading to absence of basic supplies including food and medicine in large areas of rural Nepal.

Key statistics

Population: 23.15 million (2001 Census)
 Annual population growth: 2.3
 % Urban Population: 11.9
 GDP: US\$ 5,835million
 GDP per capita: US\$ 240
 GDP growth (1990-03): 4.6%
 Total external debt (% of GDP): 47
 State budget 2005-06: US\$ 1.8 billion
 Total land area: 147,181 sq. km (56,136 sq. mi.), bordering China and India
 Total arable land: 3,296,000 ha
 Paved roads: 4,073 km
 Unpaved roads: 9,150 km
 Altitude: 150m – 8,848m (Mt Everest)
 Many ethnic groups including: Madheshi, Magar, Tharu, Tamang, Gurung, Rai, Limbu, Sherpa.
 Religions: Hinduism (80.6%), Buddhism (10.7%), Islam (4.2%) and other (4.2%).
 Life expectancy: female 59.6; male 60.1
 Literacy rate: female 33%; male 62%
 Human Development Index: 140 /177
 Gender-related Development Index: 116/177

¹ Nepalese human rights groups.

² Global IDP database, managed by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), estimates 100,000–200,000 IDPs in Nepal. The recently appointed Administrator for the Mid-Western Region believes there to be around 100,000 IDPs in the Mid-West alone.

³ Shutdowns that aim to bring all day-to-day activities to a standstill. They are designed to cripple and discredit the state.

Who are the Maoists?

Claimed by its adherents to be modelled on the Chinese peasant revolution, Nepal's Maoist movement broke from mainstream politics and started its 'people's war' in 1996 with attacks on police posts, government offices, and workers from mainstream political parties. They now have thousands of fighters under arms, are active in almost all of Nepal's 75 districts and are thought to have strong influence in most of the countryside. Analysts suggest that they are pursuing classical Maoist insurgency theory of 'surrounding the cities with liberated villages'. The insurgency is largely funded by extortion/taxation of civilians, with most of weaponry and ammunition stolen from national security forces during attacks. The formally stated aims of the insurgency are the overthrow of the monarchy, constituent assembly, and establishment of a multiparty republic. They have recently been calling on the political parties to form a strategic alliance against the King.

The lack of effective and representative governance is a major issue, as is the lack of legitimate law making bodies and the weakened judiciary. Parliament was dissolved in May 2002 and there has been an absence of elected local bodies since the last five-year-term expired in July 2002.

On 1 February 2005, King Gyanendra dismissed the appointed government of Sher Bahadur Deuba, assumed direct executive powers, and declared a State of Emergency. He suspended key constitutional provisions, placed senior political leaders under house arrest, imprisoned other politicians and civil society activists and used military personnel to censor the media. The King said this was a temporary measure needed to restore order. He set a time frame of three years for the restoration of peace, security, and multiparty democracy. He has since appointed a cabinet dominated by figures from the pre-democracy Panchayat era of absolute monarchy.

The main international players were unanimous in their opposition to the King's actions and called for the early restoration of multiparty democracy. This message has been re-emphasised during a number of high-profile visits to Nepal, including by the Special Advisor to the United Nations Secretary General, and by senior United States (US) officials.

Nepal's major suppliers of military assistance — India, the US, and the United Kingdom (UK) — have all substantially scaled back their support since 1 February 2005. Post February 1st, a number of donors have also closed or suspended bilateral development assistance projects with the government, citing concern over the lack of multiparty democracy and the deteriorating human rights situation. This is of concern to the government as almost two-thirds of its development budget has been financed through foreign aid.

The State of Emergency was lifted on 29 April. However, politically motivated arrests have continued, and many of the curbs on civil liberties, including press freedom, remain firmly imposed⁴.

The seven major political parties have formed an alliance to protest against the King's move. Street demonstrations have been supported by student movements, civil society groups, and the private press, with a growing number of party and civil society leaders reviewing their support for the monarchy.

Recent overtures from the CPN (Maoist) to the mainstream political parties to form a common opposition to the King have been received cautiously. Statements from the political parties indicate that this could happen if the CPN (Maoist) improves its respect for basic human rights.

Economic growth slowed to an average of 2% during fiscal year 2004-5 from the annual average of 4.7% during the previous decade. Remittances continue to make a huge contribution to the economy, accounting for around 15% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Labour migration — to India, and increasingly the Gulf States and Malaysia — has greatly increased in recent years, but it is thought that the instability is deterring workers from remitting their money home.

Whilst there has been relative macro-economic stability, the budget deficit for 2005-2006 is estimated to be Nepali Rupees (NR) 45.1 billion (~US\$ 650m). Of this, the Finance Minister hopes to meet NR 33.2 billion (~US\$ 480m) through foreign loans and grants. The target is ambitious as the foreign component of the budget was poor during 2004 with only 50% of projected loan commitments achieved, with grants registering a 1% decline.

⁴ A July 2005 joint mission of UNESCO and international organisations including ARTICLE 19 and the Committee to Protect Journalists concluded that freedoms of press and expression have deteriorated significantly since 1 February.

Social exclusion and discrimination along ethnic, religious and caste lines remains a major challenge to development in Nepal, with many minority groups not benefiting from economic growth⁵

2.1.2 Humanitarian Consequences

The human rights crisis

In 2004, a United Nations mission to Nepal concluded that the country was in a human rights crisis, which if left unresolved, would develop into a full humanitarian crisis. Since then, the human rights situation has deteriorated further. The security forces have continued widespread arbitrary detention, leading to an unprecedented number of reported cases of torture, disappearance, and summary execution. The Maoist insurgents have stepped up: (1) their campaign of large-scale abductions

On 18 March 2005 bilateral donors and the United Nations issued a public statement warning:

“Insecurity, armed activity and CPN (Maoist) blockades are pushing Nepal toward the abyss of a humanitarian crisis.”

of students, teachers and potential cadres for indoctrination; (2) the recruitment of child soldiers; (3) bombings for terror purposes; (4) the assassination of politicians, journalists and government workers; 5) the extortion of money, goods and services from the general population; and, 6) the restrictions on freedom of movement. The recourse by the RNA and CPN (Maoist) to intensified military operations to solve the conflict has strengthened the climate of impunity amongst local commanders to commit grave human rights violations. The militarisation of society through suspected government support to local anti-CPN (Maoist) defence groups has led to outbreaks of vigilante violence in parts of the country and deadly reprisals against civilians by the CPN (Maoist).

Efforts to strengthen multiparty democracy and adhere to constitutional principles were set back by the 1 February 2005 royal decision to dismiss the government and declare a State of Emergency. Since then, the pressure has significantly increased on local media and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) — particularly human rights defenders and those critical of either party to the conflict — prompting a number of international monitoring missions to the country and growing expressions of international concern.

As a result of international concern over the human rights crisis in Nepal, an agreement was signed in April 2005 by the High Commissioner for Human Rights and His Majesty's Government (HMGN) to establish a major OHCHR office in Nepal to monitor, investigate, and publicly report on the situation of human rights and the observance of international humanitarian law by both parties to the conflict. The UN Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 2005/78, welcomed the signing of that agreement and expressed its deep concern over continuing human rights abuses and the serious setbacks to multiparty democracy and the weakening rule of law leading from the February 2005 royal proclamation and declaration of a State of Emergency.

The Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC), in its Concluding Observations in response to the second periodic report of Nepal (June 2005), expressed strong concern over the extremely negative impact of the armed conflict on children. While noting the climate of fear, insecurity and impunity resulting from the armed conflict and its seriously negative physical and psychological impact on the sound development of children, the Committee emphasised the state obligation to respect the CRC at all times and not to derogate from any of its provisions, even in exceptional circumstances, including the state of emergency.

Displacement dynamics

There are various complex dynamics of conflict-related displacement occurring in Nepal. The first to be displaced have generally been members of the mainstream political parties, the land-owning elites, and other enemies of the so-called 'People's War'. Whilst these groups have specific protection concerns, they have usually had the resources to move and the connections to allow them to integrate at their new destinations, both inside and outside Nepal.

⁵ The Dalits (12.9% of the population in 2001), who are considered untouchable by higher castes, remain the victims of an obsolete political system. They are largely excluded from Nepal's army, administrative, diplomatic and political structures. Nepal's ethnic people (37.2% of the population) have suffered from marginalisation due to the imposition of a single culture (Midhills high caste), religion (Hinduism) and language (Nepali) by the state (Nepal Human Development Report, UNDP, 2004).

Other individuals and families have had to leave their homes as a result of being unable to sustain their livelihoods because of the conflict and because of threats from the warring parties, and in particular by the CPN (Maoist)'s drive to recruit 'one fulltime member from each family'. These people, especially poor and marginalised people, have often settled in slum areas around district headquarter towns and in the Terai⁶. Many have continued to Kathmandu or India. A recent mission from the UN Inter-agency Internal Displacement Division was told that in some highland villages up to 80% of the population has left. This has resulted in a breakdown of village social structures where only old and vulnerable groups are left behind as most young men and many of their immediate families have fled.

Others have fled in large groups from new intensive fighting. A number of districts have recently witnessed the re-emergence of 'village defence committees', or vigilante groups. In Kapilbastu district, in a recent 'civilian uprising' against the CPN (Maoist), a 4,000-strong mob killed or terrorised individuals suspected of aiding CPN (Maoist) cadres, and torched an entire village. Recriminatory attacks by the CPN (Maoist) left further casualties. It is estimated that up to 35,000 people fled across the nearby border to India. Many started to return only a month after the attacks. Similar incidents have been recorded elsewhere, notably in Dailekh and Surkhet. On the rare occasions when IDPs have settled in ad-hoc camps they have not received sustained or coordinated aid. Most displaced have integrated into urban centres and there are currently no large permanent camp-like populations existing in Nepal.

A joint mission of the Representative of the Secretary General for the Human Rights of IDPs and the Director of the Inter-Agency Internal Displacement Division in April 2005 made the following recommendations to the Government, the UN and the international community:

- government and humanitarian organisations to enhance basic services in areas with significant concentrations of IDPs and other vulnerable groups;
- humanitarian agencies to conduct further multi-sectoral needs assessments;
- UN and other humanitarian agencies to enhance contingency capacities and planning to be able to provide immediate humanitarian assistance to new groups of IDPs that are unable to look after themselves;
- the Government to ease current bureaucratic restrictions on NGOs.

The full report is available on the Nepal Information Platform www.un.org.np.

Access challenges

Access to vulnerable populations has become increasingly challenging, with aid agency staff occasionally refused access to specific areas, and often subjected to CPN (Maoist) demands to register their programmes or provide 'donations'. Likewise there have been numerous reports of increased suspicion by the government and the army of aid workers who continue to work in areas under effective CPN (Maoist) control⁷. The United Nations, bilateral donors and NGOs have all issued basic operating guidelines (BOGs), to set out minimum standards for the conduct of development and humanitarian field-based activities⁸.

Aid work can often only be conducted by trekking for several days. Together with the security situation, access is also determined by the natural environment.

Government bureaucratic procedures governing the operations of international and local NGOs remain challenging. The registration of new organisations and projects often takes more than six months. There are widespread concerns over new legislation and a 'code of conduct' being prepared by the government' reportedly to 'control' NGO activities.

Further details on efforts to maintain 'operational space' are noted in the Strategic Priorities chapter.

⁶ The Terai region is composed of a 26 to 32 km wide broad belt of alluvial and fertile plain in the southern part of Nepal, and covers about 17% of the total land area.

⁷ The most visible government presence in the countryside at present is the army (RNA), though its ability to operate in areas away from district headquarters, especially at night, is severely limited by security concerns. Many district-based civil servants have moved to the district headquarters and are working under the protection of the army with some conducting their work directly from military bases.

⁸ Copies of the UN and bilateral donor BOGs are included as an annex.

Humanitarian Considerations

Rural Nepal has always been poor, over one-third of the population subsist below the absolute poverty line, and 86% under the US\$ 2 per day mark. As demonstrated below, many of the traditional indicators of a humanitarian crisis have been at what may have been considered 'emergency' levels for generations, though with structural origins. The conflict has exacerbated the situation, and development progress has slowed down, in some cases even been undone.

According to the most recent Health and Demographic Survey (HDS) conducted in 2001, the mortality rate among children under-five is 91/1,000, and infant mortality is estimated at 64 per 1,000 live birth. Wide disparities prevail between regions as evidenced by the under-five mortality rate and infant mortality rates in the far-western development region of 149 per 1,000 live birth and 112 per 1,000 live births respectively. Half of Nepali children under-five are stunted (short for their age) and 10% are acutely malnourished (wasted)⁹. A level of 10% wasting is usually considered the level above which emergency actions are required.

The maternal mortality rate in Nepal for 1990-96 is estimated at 539 deaths per 100,000 live births. In 2004 United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) produced an adjusted figure of 740 deaths per 100,000 live births, clearly an unacceptably high toll, even compared to other countries in the region. 75% of the country's pregnant women are anaemic.

Nepal as many other countries in the region is experiencing an increase in Human Immuno-deficiency Virus (HIV) incidence. World Health Organization / Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (WHO/UNAIDS) estimate prevalence levels at 0.5% in the general population, with the highest rates amongst injecting drug users (68%) and female sex workers (20%). Migration and separation of families and the presence of armed groups in communities increases the risk of sexual exploitation and violence, the main challenge is how to respond amidst an armed conflict to stop spread of the disease into the general population.

The conflict is having a direct effect on children's lives and safety. Over 400 children are reported to have died in conflict-related incidents, and 25,000 children are reported to have been removed from schools by the CPN (Maoist) to attend indoctrination sessions. Many children have been deprived of primary care givers or are associating with armed groups. These children are especially vulnerable to the impact of violence, abuse and exploitation in conflict.

Since the beginning of the 2005-2006 academic year schools have been forced to close for 23% of the time by the CPN (Maoist). The government reports that 187 schools have been completely destroyed by the insurgents. Teachers have been killed by both sides in the conflict, and have regularly been abducted and forced to hand over a percentage of their salaries to the CPN (Maoist). It is estimated that many schools in conflict-affected areas have been closed for more than 120 of the requisite 220 days that comprises an academic year. The World Food Programme (WFP) routinely provides targeted school feeding in 4,170 schools, however has only been able to implement this activity at 62% of capacity due to the conflict.

National statistics suggest that 80% of Nepalis have access to 'improved' drinking water sources, where improved means only that some form of basic infrastructure has been established and is not indicative of water sources being safe. Recent studies suggest that many rural drinking water systems have collapsed, or are in need of major rehabilitation. Only 27% of rural households have access to a latrine.

WFP reports that 39 of Nepal's 75 districts are food-deficient with serious constraints to food access in many parts of the hills and mountains — areas that are also prone to natural hazards. Sixty percent of rural households cannot produce enough food to meet their basic needs and need a supplementary income to buy food.

Nepal plays host to a number of different refugee groups, most notably 106,000 Bhutanese that reside in refugee camps in eastern Nepal. This group has been largely reliant on humanitarian assistance from the Nepali Government, UNHCR, WFP and other organisations since 1992.

⁹ Health and Demographic Survey, HMGN 2001.

Over the past ten years, an average of 211 Nepali citizens have lost their lives annually as a result of natural disasters including flooding, landslides and earthquakes.

Discriminatory practices rooted in the ethno-caste system have hindered balanced development practices in Nepal. Historic exclusions of certain geographic regions, particularly the Mid and Far West have disempowered indigenous minorities and undermined livelihoods development, one of the major root causes of the current conflict. Access to these regions, difficult as it was prior to the conflict, has become even more challenging with the mobility restrictions and blocking of certain development programmes imposed by the CPN (Maoist) in many of the Village Development Committees (VDCs) of these two development regions. In such heavy conflict affected areas, the stay-behind population are more vulnerable as they include women who have the added responsibility of running the households in the absence/departure of able-bodied males, and elderly, sick people and children.

2.2 SCENARIOS

The following scenarios for Nepal were developed by participants in the Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) workshop held at the end of June 2005:

Most Likely Scenario

Core assumptions:

- King remains in overall control of government and army;
- overall military status quo between CPN (Maoist) and army continues;
- continued economic decline, including reduction of income from remittances and tourism;
- curbs on civil liberties continue, including on press freedom.

Triggering factors:

- human rights abuses by both sides continue;
- increased intensity of the conflict nationwide and greater general insecurity;
- more bandhs and blockades;
- increased agitation by political parties, unions, and students result in violence;
- CPN (Maoist) and political parties present a united front;
- municipal elections are held (scheduled to take place by mid-April 2006);
- increased criminality.

Humanitarian implications:

- widespread human rights violations;
- limited humanitarian access;
- further decline in the state's ability to deliver education and health services;
- increase in number of conflict-displaced IDPs and people moving to India;
- further deterioration of social cohesion and traditional coping mechanisms amongst rural people (also, increase in exploitative labour practices, including against children).

Best Scenario:

Core assumptions:

- conflicting parties agree to a ceasefire;
- King reconciles with political parties and the CPN (Maoist);
- neighbouring countries extend effective support to the peace process.

Triggering factors:

- holding of parliamentary elections;
- agreement on disarmament, demobilisation, rehabilitation and reintegration (DDRR) programme;
- amendments to the Constitution;
- increased donor development-partnership support.

Humanitarian implications:

- operational access improves;
- large numbers of IDPs and migrants return home;
- need for significant reconstruction and transition assistance;
- increase in local economic opportunities.

Worst Scenario

Core assumptions:

- radicalisation of all sides and parties;
- zero adherence to the rule of law;
- a bi-polar realignment with an absolute monarchy versus a people's republic;
- availability of weapons increases.

Triggering factors:

- economic collapse;
- massive increase in insecurity;
- external military interference;
- rise in regional warlordism and vigilantism;
- major natural disaster, for example influenza pandemic;
- reduced 'good will' towards the UN and the international community.

Humanitarian implications:

- increase in human rights violations, especially against civilians;
- increase in mass displacement;
- deterioration in access to vulnerable groups;
- evacuation of aid agency staff;
- international borders closed;
- total collapse of state-run social services – health and education.

2.3 CONTINGENCY PLANNING

During the first half of 2005 many UN agencies updated their complex emergency contingency plans. An inter-agency planning workshop was held in May to formulate a common plan.

Two potential population caseloads were identified: (1) internally displaced populations, and (2) people affected by the conflict who remain in their home areas¹⁰. Implications for existing refugee caseloads were also considered.

It was agreed that a figure of 65,000 new identifiable and vulnerable IDPs, who could well result from a further deterioration of the situation, would be used for contingency planning. From this number, 15,000 would likely be in the district headquarters of 15 hill districts; 20,000 in major regional municipalities; 20,000 scattered across the Terai; and 10,000 in the Kathmandu Valley.

UN agencies also agreed to plan to address the needs of vulnerable persons who would remain in, or return to, their places of origin in up to 20 of the hill districts. The following potential population caseloads were established for planning purposes: 1.4 million in need of essential medicines, and up to 50,000 households in need of food assistance and other types of humanitarian support such as shelter, basic education and emergency water and environmental sanitation interventions.

Both caseloads were initially considered for the period to the end of 2005. A number of the projects proposed in this appeal are to establish contingency capacity to enable responses to these potential caseloads.

¹⁰ Further details on the assumptions used to develop the contingency planning caseload scenarios are included as an annex.

A review of the status of the plan with partners to consider scenarios and preparedness is scheduled for later in 2005; with further reviews planned in 2006.

A revised inter-agency contingency plan for natural disasters will be developed during the second half of 2005.

2.4 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

At the CAP workshop, participants representing the United Nations, donors, international and national NGOs, the Red Cross movement, and the Nepali Government analysed the context, priority needs, risks, and scenarios. Agreement was reached that the following strategic priorities should govern the overall humanitarian response for the period to the end of 2006:

- Expand and maintain 'operational space' for humanitarian action and development cooperation;
- Ensure effective monitoring of, advocacy and response to, major protection concerns, where operational protection is defined as 'all activities aimed at ensuring full respect of the individual, particularly members of vulnerable groups, in accordance with the letter and the spirit of the relevant international and national laws, including human rights law, international humanitarian law, and refugee law';
- Ensure the provision of basic services for people in need by linking humanitarian responses with longer-term goals and building the capacity of civil society and pre-existing structures;
- Develop systems for common assessment, needs analysis, and the coordination of emergency preparedness and responses.

The bulk of bilateral and multilateral development assistance to Nepal is channelled in line with the government's policy priorities as laid out in its Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP – 2003-2008). There has been substantial progress in a number of key areas, notably education, where school enrolment has dramatically increased as a result of the Education for All (EFA) initiatives; and for health, where there has been significant donor harmonisation and a major increase in support for the Ministry of Health (MoH).

As already highlighted, Nepal is in a somewhat unusual situation where certain development activities are able to continue despite the deteriorating situation. The strategic priorities listed above have been developed to address some of the emerging response gaps and necessary preparedness actions and to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable and conflict affected can be addressed. Every effort has been made to ensure that the activities proposed here are complementary to, and supportive of, other ongoing longer term, development activities.

Increased humanitarian needs are a result of the erosion of development space and the consequent loss of capacities and resources in conflict-affected areas. Operational space is continually eroded by increasing militarisation and in many districts, the absence of government structures outside the district headquarters and the presence of CPN (Maoist) cadres mean that aid agency staff must negotiate access to continue activities or begin any new programmes. Although aid projects that are carried out in a transparent way and bring clear benefits to the local communities may be allowed to continue there are many instances of interference, closures and interruptions. Negotiations about access continue at both the field and higher levels.

The United Nations, bilateral donors and NGOs have all developed very similar BOGs (included as an annex), which are carried by all staff members in the field and regularly disseminated to both warring parties at all levels. During every field-level encounter staff carefully explain the nature of their mission in accordance with the BOGs. Efforts continue to secure acceptance of the BOGs. In the July 2005 budget statement the government pledged to honour the BOGs. On 10 August 2005 the CPN (Maoist) issued a statement assuring the United Nations of 'assistance in its development efforts', and requesting NGOs and International NGOs (INGOs) to establish 'coordination and understanding' at regional and local levels. However, major inconsistencies exist between regions on the level of acceptance from both the security forces and CPN (Maoist). At the field level, efforts to disseminate the Guidelines are complicated by a number of factors including: the transient nature of CPN (Maoist) presence, literacy, articulation, and difficulties in transferring complex operating concepts across cultural boundaries.

Details on a number of the planned upcoming assessments are included in the sector response plans. A major inter-agency assessment covering humanitarian and protection concerns, especially examining displacement issues in areas where IDPs have settled and left from, is planned at the end of 2005.



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3. RESPONSE PLANS

3.1 PROTECTION/HUMAN RIGHTS/RULE OF LAW

Needs analysis

There is an urgent need to better mobilise international and national actors in a more coordinated response to break the spiralling cycle of deadly violence and the climate of impunity. Effective international monitoring and the resulting accountability for abuses will be key to curbing and preventing serious and systematic human rights violations and breaches of international humanitarian and human rights law. The strong monitoring and reporting mandate of the new OHCHR must be used strategically and in close coordination with a wide variety of international and national partners to engage both parties to the conflict in a human rights dialogue, establish the accountability of perpetrators, and strengthen protection for vulnerable groups. In addition, the conflict has limited individual's access to essential services of the civil and judicial administration such as the availability of identity and other basic documentation. Persons displaced by the conflict, particularly women and children, face concerns specifically linked to their displacement such as access to education, health care, and other social services.

Response strategy

Effective networks must be established at the national, regional and local levels to afford better protection for human rights defenders and ensure sufficient operational space for aid and humanitarian workers. Additionally, freedom of the press must be protected to ensure the free flow of information that is fundamental for maintaining a vibrant civil society. National capacity must be strengthened on human rights, protection, and the rule of law. Fundamental protection concerns such as documentation, legal counselling and representation, family reunification, the needs of separated and traumatised children, vulnerable women, and protection against and response to abuse and exploitation, including sexual exploitation, need to be addressed in a coordinated and systematic way. The recovery and reintegration of children recruited or abducted as a result of the conflict must be provided for. Conditions for the return of displaced persons, including their willingness to return, must be assessed and monitored. Returns — if they are to be sustainable — must take place in safety and dignity and only once the conditions provoking displacement have been mitigated. Activities in this sector will address CAP strategic priorities 1 and 2.

Objectives

- Build a nationwide system to monitor, investigate, and report violations of human rights and international humanitarian law.
- Promote accountability for serious and systematic human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law to prevent recurrence.
- Build and strengthen the capacity of national partners, including civil society, to promote and protect human rights and expand operational space.
- Build the capacity of national partners to ensure coordinated efforts to provide timely and appropriate responsive and remedial action for vulnerable and affected populations.
- Monitor, promote, and ensure the legal and physical protection of vulnerable groups, including IDPs.

Key partners

The organisations participating in this sector and their complementary activities are:

- OHCHR (convenor) – human rights monitoring, investigations, reporting, advocacy and capacity building;
- Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian affairs (OCHA) – coordination services, information management and advocacy;
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – legal counselling and referral services, documentation, registration, training on operational responses to protection needs, planning and monitoring of voluntary returns, protection of IDPs (subject to approval);
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) – child rights monitoring focusing on the situation of children affected by armed conflict (child soldiers, abduction, children in detention); capacity building and support to local partners to ensure coordinated responses and improved protection of vulnerable children and women affected by armed conflict including urban/displaced populations; developing and piloting common procedures and programming principles for the Disarmament, Demobilisation, Rehabilitation and Reintegration (DDRR) of child soldiers; and advocacy at all levels.

- United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) – Women’s rights and protection issues.
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) - psychosocial support to out-of-school adolescents (at risk of gender-based violence) in conflict affected districts.
- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) – participated in discussions as a standing invitee to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC).
- Terre des Hommes – child rehabilitation, juvenile justice, legal aid and psycho-social support to women and children in detention;
- Save the Children Alliance (SCA) – child protection, including the rehabilitation and reintegration of children associated directly with armed conflict as well as addressing the needs of lost children.

Indicators

- International and national monitoring presence is established and functioning in all regions, and integrated with and complementary to local organisations and actors, and is publicly reporting on serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law.
- Number and scale of capacity building initiatives on human rights and protection that are undertaken to provide training, advocacy, and other support to national partners.
- Networks are in place and functioning effectively to facilitate the exchange of information and to develop joint responses and initiatives among national and international partners active in human rights and protection.
- Cases of vulnerable and affected populations and human rights defenders are dealt with promptly and effectively.
- Displaced persons and others accessing the legal and physical protection they require, including needs arising from sexual abuse and exploitation.

Monitoring

The sector will be monitored through an Inter-agency Working Group on Human Rights and Protection, to be chaired by OHCHR. This working group will have sub-committees on specific themes such as child protection and IDPs, with representatives from UN agencies and key national and international NGOs. The working group will be based in Kathmandu with branches in Nepalganj, Biratnagar and Pokhara.

OHCHR will regularly issue public and annual reporting on the human rights situation to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly. The reports will cover the observance of human rights and international humanitarian law in Nepal and overview activities undertaken in the sector. Other participating organisations will also monitor and report regularly through their established channels.

Implications of not responding

If this sectoral response plan is not implemented, the situation in Nepal is likely to worsen and develop from the present human rights crisis into a humanitarian crisis. The increasing levels of violence would be magnified by the climate of impunity which would likely result in higher levels of internal displacement and flight to India. Nepali civil society and aid workers would be at greater risk and unable to carry out their work.

3.2 WATER AND SANITATION

Needs analysis and response strategy

The traditional social fabric that has sustained communities in many of the hill districts, particularly in the mid and far western regions, has been hard-hit by the conflict. Pressure and human rights violations by the warring parties has led to the displacement of many of the individuals and families who have formerly played a leading role in community mobilisation activities, including in maintaining water and sanitation infrastructure.

Government support agencies have been mostly confined to the district headquarters because of the insurgency, and it is becoming increasingly difficult for government and non-government agencies to access remote and highly affected districts.

National statistics suggest that 80% of Nepalis have access to ‘improved’ drinking water sources, where improved means only that some form of basic infrastructure has been established and is not indicative of water sources being safe. The situation has recently been found to be of greater

concern, as many schemes built over the last few decades are either not functioning or functioning below capacity. According to one study¹¹, 10% of schemes need major repairs, 50% need rehabilitation and 11% are not functioning. This is dramatically increasing the risk of water-related disease outbreaks.

The Terai areas are relatively better off for water supply since inexpensive shallow tube wells can be easily installed. Nearly all Terai people have access to tube well water or water piped from deep wells. However, pockets of marginalised communities do not have access to improved water supplies. Arsenic contamination is a concern in the Terai and work is going on to try and alleviate the problem. Poor sanitation and hygiene throughout Nepal, especially in the mid and far western hills and across the Terai, is compounding the risk of disease outbreaks. During each rainy season outbreaks of diarrhoea and dysentery caused by contaminated water and poor hygiene result in many deaths. An estimated 15,000 children die each year due to diarrhoea and many more are debilitated. Only about 27% of rural households have some type of latrine with below average coverage in the mid and far west and the Terai. Only a few schools have latrines, whilst health care facilities are usually poorly maintained and inadequate.

Gastroenteritis claims 12, hundreds affected

BY JAY BAHADUR ROKAYA

SIMIKOT, HUMLA, July 11, 2005 - At least 10 children and two elders have died in Thehe village of gastroenteritis within the past week, while hundreds of others have been affected by the rapidly spreading disease.

According to Suryamani Bohara, a local, the disease has affected most households of Ward-2. He said that lack of proper sanitation has compounded the problem.

Bijayaraj Panta of a local NGO said that the absence of health workers in the village health post has made things worse. According to him, the disease has already affected over 400 local children.

Rameshwor Pradhan, programme officer of UNICEF Nepal, said that lack of toilets in the crowded settlements could be the cause of the sudden epidemic. "Further, we found date-expired saline bottles and diarrhoea medicines at the local health post."



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While the risk of disease outbreaks is increasing, it is becoming more difficult to access health services, particularly for marginalised groups and people in remote areas. At the same time, government health services are becoming less able to respond to disease outbreaks. Where health posts are functioning, the quality of service is generally poor and drugs are in short supply. Female community health volunteers (FCHVs) may be the only accessible health provider in remote areas.

These problems have made it more urgent to initiate preventive measures such as repairing and installing water supply schemes and latrines. Enabling inhabitants, including children, and FCHVs in the Terai and remote areas to take preventative measures is critical for reducing death and debilitation and mitigating the potential for major disease outbreak.

Marginalised communities need external support to repair and maintain

drinking water schemes. Agencies with access to remote areas and marginalised communities will need to help establish or re-establish user groups, and empower them to plan and manage the

¹¹ Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Fund Development Board (2001). Initial Project Information Document for Nepal Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project II. Kathmandu: Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Fund Development Board.

rehabilitation, installation, operation and maintenance of their schemes. Many schools and health posts lack water supplies and need to be included in water supply schemes.

The water supply and sanitation needs of remote communities can still be met through the regular development services provided by NGOs, many of which still have access to needy areas. Although many of the above problems are longstanding, the increased difficulties of working in remote areas and the larger numbers of vulnerable people means there is a need to intensify and better target sector activities. Another point is the importance of sanitation in urban centres especially if municipal areas are to host IDPs for the short to the medium-term.

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) has agreed to work towards establishing emergency response capacity to respond to the needs of 65,000 new IDPs in Nepal (see chapter and annex on Contingency Planning). Part of this strategy is to establish the operational response capacity to be able to provide adequate water supply and sanitation facilities that meet with the international Sphere standards¹².

Objectives

The overall objective is to create a rapid response mechanism to address IDPs' water and sanitation needs. The specific objective to be achieved through the coordinated efforts of collaborating agencies is:

- to establish the mechanism and capacity in 40 hill districts, five Terai regional centres, and the Kathmandu Valley for a quick response to the water and sanitation needs of 65,000 potential new IDPs congregating in camps in any of 15 district centres in the hills, in five regional centres and 20 rural localities in the Terai, and in the Kathmandu Valley.

Key partners and proposed action

The water and sanitation response will be coordinated by UNICEF with involvement of HMGN, Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS), WHO, and Lutheran World Federation (LWF). UNICEF will establish a National Emergency Response Coordination Group on Water and Sanitation in consultation with OCHA, key sector partners and the host government. The main functions of the group would be to ensure complementarity of stakeholder activities, to guide a coordinated development and implementation plan for the water and environmental sanitation (WES) emergency response, discuss and resolve key sector problems related to the emergency as well as to support the Government of Nepal (GoN) realise its sector objectives. The group will oversee information management, provision of technical guidance and coordination of resource mobilisation for WES projects. The Group will be made up of key government, UN, Donor and NGO partner agencies involved in the Nepal emergency WES response. These agencies will work with national and local NGO partners and in some cases local government institutions. UNICEF and DDCs will jointly establish informal coordination mechanisms in focus districts to avoid duplication and overlap in working areas. Basic information on scheme location and coverage will be regularly shared with the concerned government ministries and departments.

To prepare for a likely increase in the number of vulnerable IDPs, the existing water supply facilities of the 40 hill district headquarters will be assessed and assistance provided to upgrade facilities to meet the needs of local inhabitants and an influx of IDPs. Training will be provided for local water authorities and technical staff to respond to the water and sanitation needs of an increased number of IDPs and other emergency situations. Pre-positioned stocks of emergency water supplies and sanitation materials, water purification and treatment items, and water quality monitoring equipment will be placed at regional centres and in remote districts. All preparation activities will be designed to meet the Sphere standards.

Indicators

- Number of district headquarters having a plan and capability to immediately supply water for an influx of IDPs and to install latrine facilities in IDP camps according to Sphere standards.
- Number of water supply facilities upgraded.
- Number of technical persons trained in installing emergency water supply and sanitation facilities.

¹² The Sphere Initiative was launched in 1997 by a group of humanitarian NGOs. It identifies minimum standards for disaster assistance in the six key sectors of water supply and sanitation, nutrition, food aid, food security, shelter and health services. More information can be obtained at www.sphereproject.org

Monitoring

The overall response will be monitored through periodic meetings of the water and sanitation sectoral working group. It will review overall progress, achievements and constraints and refine objectives and indicators in line with constraints affecting implementation and other issues. Each agency will monitor the progress of its own activities at the field level and ensure a coordinated approach by participating in informal coordination group meetings in the districts. Monitoring and assessment of the local situation will be coordinated with various partners through the regular submission and sharing of information from field-based workers.

Implications of not responding

A failure to prepare to better respond to an influx of new IDPs would, in the event of such an influx, make it difficult for the humanitarian response agencies and host communities to quickly and effectively respond to the needs of IDPs resulting in more deaths and disease outbreaks and increased tension between host communities and IDPs.

3.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Needs analysis

New initiatives in the health and nutrition component response plan are intended to complement and strengthen existing development activities under the ongoing Nepal Health Sector Programme – Implementation Plan (NHSP-IP) which addresses long-term structural constraints in Nepal's health system.

Basic population, health and nutrition indicators in Nepal, although they have improved over the last decade, are still dismal and show that women, rural populations, and the poor have poor health and less access to health services. The Health Sector Reform Strategy is working to improve poor peoples' access to essential health services and to increase the participation of the private sector in health care provision.

The civil unrest and political instability is threatening progress in meeting health sector goals in many districts, districts that were already neglected and carried a higher burden of disease. Action is therefore needed in the most severely affected areas in the far west and mid west hill and mountain districts to detect and respond to the effects of the conflict on the health system and the health of local people. Initiatives are also needed to enable areas to provide for the health care of new influxes of IDPs.

The conflict has exacerbated structural problems such as absenteeism of qualified medical and health staff, low supervision capacity, lack of essential medical supplies and equipment and geographical and economical access barriers to health services. Frequent general strikes and blockades have severely restricted movement and people's access to health care. People find it difficult to come to the district headquarter hospitals and health centres. Drugs sent to remote health posts are being taxed or confiscated, making them less available. Some health facilities have been destroyed.

Health workers' reluctance to go to the villages in conflict-affected areas is undermining the capacity of outreach services due to security and extortion concerns. Both parties to the conflict are interfering with medical services. Community based health care services are increasingly relying on less skilled health workers and female community health volunteers. This makes the community, especially the women and adolescents/youth deprived of access to Reproductive Health Care Services (for example: Safe Motherhood/Obstetric Care, family planning, STI/RTI).



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Increasing displacement and migration of the male workforce from the mountain and hill districts is increasing the work burden on the women, children and the elderly who are left behind. Migration and the separation of families and the presence of armed groups are increasing the risk of sexual exploitation and violence. Nepal's HIV/AIDS epidemic is rapidly evolving. Mid-1990s figures put HIV prevalence at only 2% or less among female sex workers (FSWs) and intravenous drug users (IDUs). 2004 figures show it has reached 68% for IDUs and 20% for FSWs¹³.

Malnutrition has a devastating impact on survival, growth and development. Nepali women and children have a poor nutritional status. Over half of Nepali children are stunted, 48% underweight, and almost 10% wasted (Demographic Health Survey, 2001) with prevalence highest in the hills and mountains and in the mid and far western regions. The displacement of many families, the restricted movement of food and medicines, coupled with the disruption of income generation opportunities and food security is further reducing the nutritional status of children and women.

The main challenges for the health sector are therefore:

- to ensure that the medical mission¹⁴ is respected in conflict affected areas so that all patients, irrespective of caste, political alliances, or gender have access to the health network and that the health infrastructure and health service personnel are protected;
- to manage severe and moderate malnutrition in conflict affected areas or those districts receiving an influx of IDPs.
- to develop the capacity to monitor the population's health and the functionality of the public health network. This involves developing indicators to identify areas where conflict and its consequences are having a negative impact;
- to ensure that the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) has the capacity to promptly mobilise needed resources; and
- to build up the delivery capacity of district public health management and health services in districts where there could be an influx of new IDPs.

The Ministry of Health and Population is trying to make its activities more conflict sensitive. However, its regular budget is insufficient and it is difficult for it to adapt to the challenges posed by the conflict.

Response strategy

New resources will be channelled to the most conflict-affected districts and targeted at IDPs and disadvantaged host communities to ensure that their basic human rights to health and nutrition are respected and that the population continue to receive essential services. The plan will strengthen preparedness capacity of the public health network and external partners to identify and respond to the demands placed on the health service delivery by the conflict. This will include strengthening the capacity of female community health volunteers to deliver basic health and nutrition services and communicate health messages and establishing the capacity to implement the supplementary feeding of preschool children and pregnant women, and the management of severely malnourished children. Projects will support the training of field workers, the pre-positioning of essential supplies for rapid response, strengthen surveillance, improve disaster management capacity, and support conflict sensitive logistic arrangements.

Objectives

- To protect the medical mission so that all patients have access to the health and nutrition network in the conflict affected areas, and the health infrastructure safety and human resources integrity are protected.
- To identify and fill gaps in public health and nutrition surveillance, monitoring of the functionality of the public health network, and to ensure that timely and adequate information is available to provide early warning of the effects of the conflict on health and nutrition and the provision of health services.
- To build the Ministry of Health and Population's capacity to provide essential health care, including reproductive health to communities heavily affected by the conflict, and to ameliorate the negative consequences of conflict on the health system.

¹³ UNAIDS Country Profile, Nepal, April 2004

¹⁴ The medical mission includes health and nutrition staff, infrastructure equipment, vehicles, patients, and all activities related to the delivery of health services in a conflict situation protected under international humanitarian law.

Key partners and coordination

This response plan will be coordinated by a temporary unit at the MoHP with technical support from UN agencies. The unit will work to ensure a common understanding of the plan within the different levels of the health system and forge links with existing development programmes to facilitate monitoring and the rapid implementation of response measures. The unit will coordinate the implementation of the functions and procedures needed to protect the medical mission in conflict-affected areas and monitor violations. It will also work to open up the space for dialogue with other government agencies and INGOs and NGOs to avoid duplication and to enable rapid responses.

The key partners are the MoHP; the UN agencies WHO, UNFPA, UNICEF, and UNAIDS, INGOs and NGOs; NRCS and communities. UNICEF will coordinate nutritional surveillance and programmes for management of severe and moderate malnutrition, in partnership with WFP, FAO and relevant NGOs.

Indicators

- Number of districts affected by the conflict that fully implement procedures and actions to guarantee protection of the medical mission.
- Coverage of vulnerable populations (children, pregnant, ill or injured) with Maternal and Child Health, reproductive and sexual health care services (women, men and adolescents), access to safe blood, and ambulance services.
- Number of district hospitals, primary health care centres, health posts, and sub-health posts, and targeted feeding centres with adequate stock of essential supplies in severely conflict-affected districts and districts with many IDPs.
- Number of facilities in conflict affected districts reporting basic indicators of disease surveillance, nutritional status and health network functionality on a periodic basis.

Monitoring

The health ministry's temporary unit will coordinate with HMGN's Health Management Information System and all major organisations working on health in Nepal to provide information to monitor against the above indicators. Quarterly meetings will be held to assess activities. Mid-year and end-of-year evaluations will be conducted to assess changes needed to address changing situations. Throughout the project cycle, progress, changes and gaps identified will be shared and discussed with external development partners to ensure complementarity of development activities.

Implications of not responding

A failure to respond would lead to more ill health, unwanted or unplanned pregnancies, and a lack of proper nutrition amongst conflict-affected people. It would also increase the inequality of health care provision with the disadvantaged groups having even less access to services resulting in worsening health with all of its consequences. A failure to respond could delay and even jeopardise achieving the health section strategic goal of the NHSP 2004-2009:

3.4 ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Priority needs

Due to the escalating conflict, living conditions have deteriorated sharply for the already vulnerable populations in rural, often remote, districts where government services no longer function and local economies have all but collapsed. In many of these communities, increasing vulnerability has been exacerbated by the displacement and migration of young men leaving female-headed households and elderly populations in precarious situations. Disaffected young people with few prospects for the future are a prime target for recruitment into warring parties and criminality. Meanwhile in urban areas, the growing numbers of IDPs, who have been forced from their homes by the conflict and collapsing rural economies, has led to a significant increase in urban unemployment and poverty, fuelling tension between groups and adding to pressure on basic services. Population displacement has also led to the disappearance of many local markets — often the lifeline of local economies — as traditional patterns of trade have been disrupted, and external and internal investment has contracted.

Response strategy

The strategy is to: 1) identify and develop income-generating and livelihood opportunities for IDPs in urban centres; and 2) to stimulate and rejuvenate local economies in conflict-affected areas by supporting the upgrading of local infrastructure for creating employment, income-generating activities, and vocational capacity building. This can help mitigate the conflict in the rural areas and assist IDPs.

Objectives

The overall objective is to support conflict-affected vulnerable groups in rural and urban areas by protecting livelihoods and rehabilitating productive basic infrastructures. The specific objectives are:

- to expand livelihood support to prevent a further exodus from rural areas where, given appropriate assistance, it is still possible to maintain a decent living; and,
- to provide vocational training and gainful employment opportunity to IDPs.

Key partners

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) lead, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), International Labour Organization (ILO), Development Project Service Centre (NGO), Save the Children US, Care International and Lutheran World Federation

Indicators

- Number of IDPs provided with livelihood support.
- Number of families receiving livelihood support (non-IDP families).

Monitoring

A sectoral coordination group will be established under the chairmanship of UNDP, with sub-groups in regional centres to monitor field-level activities through field visits and regular reporting. These groups will work closely with coordination mechanisms established within the Family Shelter and Non-Food Items group. Public auditing of all projects and activities will be introduced to maintain transparency and accountability.

Implications of not responding

Allowing local economies to collapse would produce severe hardship among vulnerable populations. Communities could break up as people are forced to flee their homes, leading to them losing their productive skills and becoming dependent on relief aid, or becoming engaged in conflict activities. Economic collapse would cause traditional coping mechanisms and networks of authority to disappear, exacerbating vulnerability to further shocks from conflict and natural disasters. Meanwhile, tensions would grow between IDPs and host communities, fuelling the cycle of poverty and conflict, and further exacerbating the humanitarian crisis.

3.5 EDUCATION

Needs analysis

The significant improvements in Nepal's education system are being threatened by the escalating conflict. Schools are often forced to close; teachers and students are harassed by combatants and abducted for political sessions; children are recruited by the CPN (Maoist); schools are caught in the crossfire; and the general feeling of insecurity is making families keep their children away from school. The moves by the CPN (Maoist) to close private schools has led to a surge of new students to the public schools, causing dislocation and great strains on the public education system.

Since the beginning of the 2005 academic year, schools in severely affected districts have been closed for more than 120 of the 220 day academic year. Schools are frequently used by the CPN (Maoist) cadres for political and military programmes. Students have been caught in the crossfire in gunfights between the CPN (Maoist) and the security forces. The RNA are using some schools as temporary bases. A number of children have been killed by explosive devices left in or near school premises. It is estimated that over 400 children have died in conflict-related incidents.

Teachers are ill-equipped to deal with psycho-social trauma and ensure that school lessons promote values and practices that foster peace building and alternative conflict resolution methods.

The impact of the conflict underlines the need to both strengthen schools in conflict-affected areas and use alternative ways of educating vulnerable and displaced children. There is systematic planning at central, regional or district levels to prepare the education system to deal with man made or natural emergencies.

Given the scale and depth of social exclusion in Nepal, the particular worry is that the situation could erode the recent gains of first generation learners brought into schools through Education for All (EFA) initiatives. A big problem is that in about 25 of Nepal's 75 districts, district education office staff is limited to the confines of district headquarters.

The conflict has affected the whole country and large numbers of people have been forced to migrate with about 200,000 IDPs nationwide. This number does not take into account the mass exodus of Nepalis to India in search of work and safety. The UN interagency Contingency Planning scenario estimates 65,000 new vulnerable IDPs in need of basic humanitarian support of whom 35,000 would be school-age children.

The current IDP population is spread across the country and includes many vulnerable working children. When not with their families, these children more often than not end up doing the worst forms of child labour, which typically prevent them from attending school.

Priority needs

The critical need is to ensure that the gains made under the EFA programme are protected. The priority needs are: 1) a special focus on children from marginalised and excluded groups; 2) ensuring that children displaced by the conflict are able to access learning opportunities; 3) to support the EFA programme to create protective and safe schools and 4) to prepare HMGN to meet emergency education needs. There is also a need to mainstream peace education by promoting schools as zones of peace and through other conflict mitigation and resolution approaches.

Objectives

- Supporting schools to become more socially inclusive, protective and stimulating in conflict-affected districts.
- To reduce vulnerability of conflict affected IDP children, through appropriate alternative/formal education initiatives.
- In partnership with others, to provide students with complementary services, such as nutrition, ECD and health including psychosocial counselling, that will allow children to successfully participate in educational programmes.
- To work with the MoES/DoE and selected municipalities to develop education emergency plans in line with INEE standards.
- Consolidate and fine tune tools and methodologies to introduce peace education and psychosocial resources for communities and schools.

Key partners and coordination

All activities will be coordinated at national, regional and district levels with MoES/DoE, DDCs and other actors to ensure that response plan activities complement regular activities and increase the reach of the education system. The plan will work to ensure that education actors in districts all work towards the same goals sharing common strategies, tools, norms and approaches.

Key partners: MoES/DoE, DDCs, UNICEF, WFP, ILO, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNDP, SC Alliance (SC/US - SC/N - SC/J), Plan Nepal, World Education, Lutheran World Federation Nepal, and national NGOs.

Indicators

- Number of days schools in selected districts are open and functioning and teachers and students' daily school attendance.
- Number of schools adopting initiatives that promote safe, inclusive, and protective environments such as through Child Friendly School (CFS)¹⁵ and Schools as Zones of Peace initiatives.
- Number of IDP and working children attending education programmes in urban and peri-urban areas.
- Number of teachers oriented in basic psycho-social skills to assist conflict-affected children.
- National, regional and municipal plans in place for education in emergencies.

Monitoring framework

At the national level, initiatives under this appeal will be coordinated by a joint UN-IASC-MOES/DoE group to record progress and coordinate efforts. In selected districts where appeal activities are initiated, similar multi-partner groups will coordinate and monitor project progress.

Individual appeal agencies will ensure monitoring, evaluation and reporting of project activities internally as agreed with their donors. Partners will develop complementary monitoring mechanisms including using HMGN's reporting system; stakeholder monitoring through parent teacher

¹⁵ CFS includes overall school improvement such as: basic infrastructure, inclusiveness, peace education/Schools as Zone Of Peace, community participation, psychosocial services, child centred teaching and learning.

associations, school management committees, CBOs, and NGOs; and social audits to track the number of beneficiaries reached by gender, level of implementation in priority areas, relevance of strategies used and convergence with other development and humanitarian programmes.

An assessment will be carried out to track changes at school and student level in terms of student participation and attitudes. Social auditing will be used to track improvements in schools in conflict areas.

Implications of not responding

A failure to respond could well result in an erosion of EFA gains, especially for vulnerable communities which would lead to less educated children and resulting in less capable citizens. It is much easier to maintain gains than claw them back later.

3.6 FAMILY SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS

Priority needs and response plan

Most displacement within Nepal has been to urban centres. The populations of Kathmandu, Biratnagar, Nepalganj and Pokhara are increasing rapidly as people abandon their rural communities in search of work, education and protection. Men and women moving to urban centres for schooling or work are now accompanied by family members, often leaving only elderly people (and the very young) behind to tend fields and care for livestock. People fleeing sudden outbreaks of violence often find themselves in need of emergency shelter while waiting to return home or securing alternatives.

Most of the estimated 100,000–200,000 displaced persons in Nepal find shelter in rented accommodation or with relatives. In urban areas around 70% of newly displaced people live in rented accommodation¹⁶. Financial constraints and housing shortages mean that five family members often live in one or two rooms, with up to thirty families living in a single apartment block. Personal savings are used to pay rents, with many IDPs accumulating large debts for this that they often default on. Many young people face difficulties in finding rented accommodation as landlords are wary of taking on long-term tenants and are wary of renting to anyone who might be a suspected-Maoist.

Displaced persons without resources or close relatives live in temporary settlements and camps, peri-urban slums, makeshift tents, and small mud huts. They merge with the many existing squatter communities found in Nepal. Some occupy abandoned buildings such as warehouses unsuited for family housing. Those living in settlements or camps are under great pressure to return home, often before it is safe to do so. Many such households are female-headed as their husbands are away fighting, or have gone missing or been abducted or killed, or are working in India. These women household heads are exposed to further forms of discrimination and harassment.

The establishment of even temporary homes by displaced persons often leads to tensions with local communities over land and forest use. There has been little coordination of activities in the temporary settlements and international standards for site planning and organisation have not been met including those to ensure the protection of vulnerable populations, prevent outbreaks of disease, and maintain peace and order in the sites.

For many, displacement has been unplanned as they have fled violence and left behind their clothing, cooking, bedding and other basic household items. Wood is the most common cooking fuel for poorer communities, and the illegal gathering of wood from community forests is a source of much tension and potential protection risks for young women and girls.

Fortunately, the conflict has not so far resulted in widespread destruction of family accommodation and basic household goods. However, some houses have been looted, burnt and destroyed in reprisals for refusing to pay extortion, during vigilante actions, or during military operations, leaving people in need of emergency shelter and domestic support while rebuilding their homes. In one community in Kapilbastu District 600 homes were burned over two weeks due to mob violence, leaving over 2,500 homeless. Without support such people may be forced to abandon their homes to join the more vulnerable displaced population. Basic shelter materials such as bricks, mud, and roofing thatch are needed. When return is possible, many families will need assistance to rebuild their households.

¹⁶ "Nepal IDP Research Initiative Findings" March 2003. GTZ, INF, SNV, UNDP/RUPP, NRC, para 3.6 and Annex 4.

Shelter will be a priority need if and when a natural disaster such as an earthquake happens. Building materials and techniques employed in Nepal, particularly in urban areas, are not earthquake-proof and large scale destruction of private and public property is anticipated. Immediate humanitarian relief will quickly need to be followed-up with more substantial sustained inputs.

Response strategy

Action should be taken wherever displacement can be avoided for reasons related to lack of adequate shelter. When displacement does occur, shelter and accommodation should meet minimum international standards on health and protection concerns. Once return is possible, assistance to rebuild family homes is an essential precondition for re-establishing people in their home communities. Basic shelter is an essential component of safe and dignified return.

Focus groups of both displaced and host communities, including women, children and the elderly, will define programme design and delivery, including needs assessment. These groups will also be central to the monitoring and evaluation strategy. Implementation partners for the various geographical and subject areas of work will be identified and responsibilities defined through the sectoral working group. Responses will be based on assessments that prioritise local capacity and the use of local materials and resources. Existing disaster response committees and mechanisms at the local level will be used and reinforced. Camp management activities, when required, will focus on protection-related concerns, particularly for women and children, including the establishment of child-friendly spaces.

Objectives

- Provide emergency shelter and domestic relief items to those in need, in particular to those affected by the conflict and natural disasters.
- Ensure that accommodation and domestic support in accordance with international standards is available to families and individuals who have been displaced due to the conflict.
- Provide basic materials needed to rebuild homes and temporary shelter to either prevent displacement or support return.
- Ensure that temporary collective accommodation, including camps, for displaced persons meets international standards, particularly for the protection of women and children.

Key partners

NGOs and communities, Ministry of Home and Ministry of Local Development, UN agencies (UNHCR [subject to approval], UNICEF, UNDP).

Indicators

- Percentage of displaced persons and families assessed to need emergency shelter and who receive emergency shelter materials or assistance to secure private or rental accommodation.
- Percentage of persons and families assessed to need emergency domestic and non-food items and who receive appropriate items.
- Percentage of persons in their home communities assessed to need basic shelter materials and domestic and non-food items.
- Performance against international standards for site planning and individual accommodation, particularly relating to protection-related concerns.
- Number of persons returning home to areas considered safe who have received the basic shelter and non-food items necessary to re-establish themselves.

Monitoring

Monitoring will need regular coordination between partners to ensure the coherent identification of needy people. UNHCR will chair a working group and encourage the participation of all actors, to be linked with broader coordination initiatives led by OCHA. The monitoring of the effectiveness of initiatives will be done on inter-agency field visits. Lessons learned will be shared among sector partners, and the working group will update programme objectives and implementation methodologies based on monitoring results and continued needs assessments. Agencies will share information about actions planned and undertaken. Shelter assistance will be delivered on the basis of assessed needs and to a common standard. All indicators will be disaggregated along gender and age lines, as well as according to caste and ethnic divisions if necessary.

Implications of not responding

Failure to provide adequate shelter will lead to more displacement. Displacement is a fundamental risk to Nepal's social fabric and cohesion. It separates families, puts women and child at risk, weakens the economy and traditional coping mechanisms, empties the countryside, and creates barriers to peace and a return to sustainable communities.

3.7 FOOD SECURITY

Needs Analysis

Nepal is a least-developed low-income, food-deficit country with an estimated 31% of its 24.8 million people living below the poverty line.¹⁷ Poverty is largely concentrated in rural areas with most people directly or indirectly engaged in agriculture.

Thirty-nine of Nepal's 75 districts are estimated to be food-deficit with serious constraints on food access, especially in the hills and mountains, which are also prone to localised natural hazards. Food insecurity is also found in the food-surplus Terai due to limited access to food and poor dietary and hygiene practices. Overall, every second child under-five is stunted, with 10% acutely malnourished. Although agricultural production has increased over the past decade, only about 40% of rural households produce enough food to meet the year round needs. The proportion of rural households needing to find supplementary income is greatest amongst landless people and small landholders¹⁸.



All dimensions of food insecurity are evident in the hills and mountains. Frequent conflict-related strikes and blockades are compounding this situation. The 1 February 2005 events increased tensions between HMGN and CPN (Maoist). The Maoists continue to enforce strikes and closedowns that paralyse economic and market activities.

The difficult situation is changing people's livelihood strategies. Migration to the larger towns, the Terai and India for work is seriously affecting local wage labour and other established livelihood strategies.

With limited prospects for an end to the conflict, there is a continued need for activities that can bring short-term relief to vulnerable communities and strengthen their resilience and livelihood capacity in

¹⁷ Nepal Poverty Assessment 2005 (World Bank).

¹⁸ .CBS 2005

mid- to longer-term. The aim must be not to create dependence on food assistance; but to assist improvements in agricultural production and the development of basic community assets.

Background

In 2005, development agencies continue to deliver development programmes and food assistance under their development portfolio at approximately 70% of planned levels, however, frequent blockades, threats, and the theft of food commodities cause delays. In an increasingly challenging operating environment, this level may be seen as a success, but serious questions necessarily are arising about qualitative aspects and the longer-term sustainability of development projects. Although there is so far no need for humanitarian relief food assistance, development activities in food security and agricultural sectors are being implemented in a conflict environment. There is a requirement for relief programmes aiming at mid- to long-term development activities that allow more flexible and responsive programming to assist vulnerable populations whose already precarious food security is being placed under greater stress.

Additionally, there is a need to increase the level of preparedness should a deteriorating political and security context precipitate an emergency that warrants humanitarian food aid assistance. Within such context, contingency plans have been updated. Building up the necessary in-country emergency preparedness capabilities will enable agencies to better respond should emergency food initiatives be needed.

Objectives

The first strategic focus is to protect livelihoods in conflict-affected areas and enhance resilience to shocks focussing on vulnerable groups and women. The second strategic focus is to increase crop productivity and build the capacity of vulnerable population in conflict affected areas to sustain their livelihood. The third focus is to ensure adequate capacity to respond and provide emergency food assistance whenever needed. The specific objectives are therefore to:

- improve short-term food security of target beneficiaries;
- create basic community assets and mitigate vulnerability;
- ensure resumption of disrupted agricultural activities of most vulnerable families;
- acquire and consolidate emergency preparedness capabilities.

Indicators

Performance indicators measuring progress towards objectives will include:

- number of additional days for which food security is ensured by providing supplementary food assistance;
- percentage of created and rehabilitated assets used and maintained by user groups six months after completion of construction work;
- percentage of increased areas planted and areas under improved varieties, and number of target beneficiaries including women participating in farmer groups; and
- increased logistical (i.e. storage and transport), information, communication, and technology (ICT) and non-food item (NFI) assets pre-positioned in the field.

Role of food assistance, agricultural rehabilitation and emergency preparedness

The food aid intervention strategy, developed in consultation with HMGN, proposes to provide assistance to conflict-affected food-insecure communities whose members may otherwise resort to unsustainable or negative coping strategies. Its approach consists in assisting poor households to create and maintain physical assets that improve food availability and access to income, and mitigate the setbacks of recurrent natural disasters. The activities take an integrated food security approach that combines support for the construction of core community assets (micro projects) for example mule/foot trail, small-scale irrigation schemes, fish ponds, agro-forestry, river control and soil conservation schemes that are identified by the target communities through demand-based participatory approach. Training and capacity building activities will also be implemented in the same targeted areas.

Agencies will support food-insecure communities in conflict-affected areas with rice as an incentive for community participation in the asset creation/rehabilitation and income generation projects. Agencies will provide 1-3 months of food support annually to vulnerable families using HMGN daily work norm rates for Food-for-Work (FFW) projects.

The targeting of assistance to Village Development Committee (VDC) and community level will be guided by food security and vulnerability techniques. In coordination with district-level HMGN authorities, specific project identification, community/ household participation and project implementation will be the responsibility of impartial NGO/CBOs.

Nepal average yields (notably for food crops) being among the lowest in South Asia, the agricultural rehabilitation strategy will centre on improving agricultural outputs. Considering such realities compounded with structural and economic limitations, assisting rural vulnerable groups in increasing farm production is still the most efficient initiatives. This strategy will take into account the growing trend of the feminisation of agriculture which is gradually becoming evident; within two decades (1981/82-2002/02) the number of female-headed farm households has more than trebled and their proportion increased by nearly one third while their average farm size remains much lower than that of male-headed households.

Particularly, the targeted households will need to be assisted in enhancing farm production by providing packages of critical inputs as seeds, fertilisers, agriculture tools and small livestock, together with technical assistance to enhance production and productivity for sustainability. Women farmers and female-headed households will be specially supported through micro-irrigation and agricultural inputs.

As for preparedness activities, overall modalities will include the increase of stand-by capacity in order to better respond to the current deterioration of operational space and improve emergency response capacity. Contingency plans' priority preparedness actions arrangements and procedures will be activated, to ensure a rapid, effective and appropriate response. Expected outcome should include immediate capacity to react to deteriorating situations and/or emergencies and the ability to provide initial food-aid to affected/displaced persons should such need occur.

Key partners

Coordination among UN agencies (particularly WFP, FAO, UNDP and UNICEF) and other actors (such as NRCS, Action Contre la Faim [ACF], Lutheran World Federation [LWF] and number of donors) will be proactively sought to help ensure that a maximum integration is achieved in districts where complementary agencies support initiatives for similar target communities.

Monitoring and evaluation

A monitoring and evaluation system based on standardised reporting, cross-checked with monitoring visits will be established to provide an overview for control of resource allocation and adherence to project guidelines. Standardised reports that show performance indicators measuring progress towards objectives will be produced. Regular food coordination meetings will continue under WFP chairmanship.

Implications of not responding

Alternative sources of funding will be sought should funding against this appeal not be forthcoming. With partial funding (which is already available for some of the proposed projects), the scope and geographical coverage of the interventions will need to be curtailed to top priority districts and VDCs. Finally, should no funding materialise the implementation of the response plan will be suspended and the recovery and expansion of agricultural production - a key factor for poverty reduction - will have to be delayed which may contribute to further vulnerability to food insecurity of target population and prolonging the conflict situation.

3.8 REFUGEES

Priority needs and response plan

There are three groups of refugees and asylum seekers in Nepal. The largest group is the nearly 106,000 Bhutanese refugees and asylum seekers, of which the majority arrived between 1991 and 1993. They have been assisted by HMGN, UNHCR and the international community since 1992. Those persons wishing to receive assistance must live in one of the seven refugee camps in Jhapa and Morang districts in eastern Nepal. Those who choose to live outside the camps are not entitled to material assistance. The refugees are not permitted to engage in gainful employment, and all their physical and legal protection needs must be provided for. The average family size amongst Bhutanese refugees is 6.5; under four-year-olds constitute 8% of the population, and 5-17 year-olds represent 31%.

The two main challenges to this long-standing situation are to provide a durable solution for this population and to ensure their continued protection and safety. Emerging problems linked to the conflict include increased protection needs of refugee women and girls against sexual and domestic violence, the growing frustration and isolation of parts of the population, difficulties of access for assistance and service delivery and monitoring due to general strikes and security threats, lack of any police presence in the camps, and risks to the physical security of refugees due to increased fighting in surrounding areas.

The second refugee group are Tibetans. Tibetans who arrived in Nepal before 1 January 1990 are recognised as refugees by HMGN, and are permitted to reside in Nepal. Although not legally allowed to engage in gainful activities, HMGN has taken a generous approach to this population, estimated at 20,000 persons. It has provided them with agricultural land and the right to stay in Nepal. These people do not need relief assistance but they have protection concerns about proper registration and documentation and the monitoring of their situation. Although well integrated into Nepal socially and economically well off, they remain foreigners and do not have durable solutions prospects within Nepal at this time.

Tibetans arriving after 1990 are not legally permitted to remain in Nepal and are not recognised as refugees, but are still considered as persons of concern to UNHCR. New arrivals are assessed to determine if they are of concern to UNHCR. Their transit to third countries is facilitated by UNHCR. They require food, shelter, and other care during their transit stay in Nepal.

The third group is asylum-seekers and refugees from other countries — most of whom live in urban Kathmandu. Asylum seekers are registered by UNHCR, who then assess their claims in determining their status. UNHCR submits refugees for third country resettlement, or where appropriate, facilitates their voluntary repatriation. 'Mandate' refugees are not permitted to work or access national services and so require material support during their stay in Nepal including living allowances and medical care. Until 2004, most such cases were single men. However, 2004 saw a dramatic increase in the arrival of families. These families, many including small children, have additional protection and assistance needs such as counselling, education, and protection against sexual and gender-based violence.

Response strategy

Programme planning and responses are multi-sectoral and multilateral to bring together resources and to build on the efforts and insights of all partners. The need is to promote a shift from direct relief assistance to self-reliance. Refugees are involved in all aspects of response planning and implementation. A variety of mechanisms have been established for this. For the Bhutanese, the humanitarian response covers food, health, education, shelter, water, sanitation, prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence, as well as legal counselling and representation. The promotion of protection principles and the identification of durable solutions demand a coordinated effort between the HMGN, UN agencies, donors, the refugees, and NGO partners. The urban asylum seeker and refugee population (non-Bhutanese or Tibetan) is also heavily dependent on external support as they lack opportunities for self-reliance. The changing demographics of this group and their growing educational and psycho-social needs will be addressed through local partners. The facilitation of the transit of Tibetans through Nepal will be implemented with local resources and volunteers, while the conditions of those permitted to reside in Nepal will be monitored by UNHCR and any protection concerns addressed.

Objectives

- Provide legal and physical protection to all Bhutanese refugees and asylum seekers in Nepal, and identify and implement durable solutions for them.
- Support the basic sustenance, health and well-being of Bhutanese refugees in Nepal.
- Promote harmonious relationships between refugees and surrounding communities, including implementing collaborative development projects and environmental protection.
- Raise levels of debate on refugee issues among national authorities, academia and civil society to further the protection of asylum-seekers and refugees in accordance with international standards.
- Provide protection and assistance to new arrivals (Tibetans) while they transit through Nepal.
- Provide international protection and durable solutions to individual asylum seekers and mandate refugees, and address the physical protection needs of the most vulnerable.

Key partners

Ministry of Home, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UN agencies (UNHCR, OHCHR, UNICEF, UNDP, WFP), LWF, Caritas, NRCS.

Indicators

- Number of cases of *refoulement* (forced return of persons to a country where they face persecution) and deportation of refugees, asylum seekers and others of concern.
- Number of new asylum seekers or other arrivals who have their status assessed and are recognised as persons of concern.
- Percentage of refugees and asylum seekers for whom a durable solution is identified and achieved.
- Percentage of refugees, asylum seekers and others of concern registered in accordance with international standards and provided with identity documents and civil registration documents such as birth, marriage, and death certificates.
- Delivery of food and non-food relief items on a timely and appropriate basis to persons of concern.
- State of health, education, shelter, protection, and well being in refugee or similar situations.
- Percentage of women and girls participating in refugee representational bodies, graduating from school, working as teachers or other permitted professions, and percentage of cases of sexual and gender-based violence where adequate and appropriate redress is achieved.
- Number of national human rights organisations and bodies, academic and education institutions, and other elements of civil society that include refugee and international protection issues as part of their institutional priorities or concerns.

Monitoring

UNHCR's Offices in Kathmandu and Damak will coordinate monitoring in collaboration with WFP. Protection, programme and community service staff in Damak visit all seven Bhutanese camps daily. In Kathmandu, refugees and asylum seekers are met with daily. Conditions at the Tibetan Welcome Centre in Kathmandu are monitored weekly, and daily updating of arrivals and departures is coordinated with staff at the centre. Conditions for new arrivals at critical border crossings are monitored by protection missions. UNHCR is responsible for setting standards for the protection and assistance of refugees, asylum seekers, and others of concern, working closely with the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and other relevant HMG bodies.

Implications of not responding

Refugees and asylum seekers are always among the most vulnerable populations. The current conflict in Nepal is threatening what has been for many years a generous and favourable protection environment for them. The involvement of the international community in providing legal and physical assistance is more important than ever. Prospects for local integration within Nepal are affected by the conflict, and the continued stay of even the most well established groups may be at risk. The refugee populations could easily be caught between opposing forces if civil conflict intensifies. Their neutrality, well-being, and even their lives could be directly threatened by one or both parties to the conflict.

3.9 NATURAL DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

Needs analysis

Its rugged and fragile geo-physiological structure, complex geology, variable climatic conditions, active tectonic processes and rapid demographic changes make Nepal vulnerable to various types of natural disasters. A recent study (UNDP/BCPR, 2004) ranked Nepal as the eleventh most at risk country to earthquakes and the thirtieth for flood risk amongst 200 countries. A recent study (World Bank, 2005) classifies Nepal as a 'hot-spot' for natural disasters.

Among the major hazards, floods and landslides are the most recurrent in Nepal, claiming an average of 211 lives annually in the past ten years. In 2004, 68 out of Nepal's 75 districts were affected and 192 people died and 16,997 families were affected¹⁹.

A major earthquake in the Kathmandu Valley and other urban centres is a major concern for HMG. The vulnerability to earthquake damage is compounded by haphazard housing and settlement patterns, lack of enforcement of construction and building codes, and inadequate regulations for land use. There is little knowledge and appropriate planning for the emergency provision of drinking water provision and sanitation in Kathmandu and other cities. The capacity for mass casualty management is insignificant. A major earthquake in the central hills and mountains of Nepal would result in a catastrophic level of casualties in Kathmandu, with estimates of up to 40,000 deaths. The 8.4 Richter

¹⁹ Source: Ministry of Home Affairs (MOHA).

scale earthquake that took place in 1934 completely or partially collapsed more than 38,000 buildings and killed 8,542 people.

Epidemics usually take the largest human toll in the country every year. A specific concern is the possibility of the spread of avian flu to Nepal, and an influenza pandemic causing significant loss of life.

Nepal has made some progress towards disaster risk management, beginning with a positive response to the Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action, 1995. There have been successful initiatives by HMGN and NGOs for community disaster preparedness, emergency health management, earthquake risk management, and emergency response to high altitude hazardous events that have been replicated in other countries. HMGN is working on a strategy paper on disaster management for the next decade in Nepal in line with the Hygo Framework of Action 2005-2015.

The escalation of the conflict has increased vulnerability and risk due to issues of security, restricted access and poor information flow. Though traditional modes of response may be helpful in urban areas, the conflict has greatly inhibited national capacity for search and rescue and relief work in the rural hinterlands. Some IDPs have been pushed from their homes by damage caused by natural hazards.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) is the focal agency for disaster management in Nepal. The ministry and other related ministries and departments need institutional support in building requisite capacities, especially in preparedness since the approach has traditionally been reactive. Even for civil society, unless a certain amount of material and hardware support is provided, their response would be inadequate. Hence pre-positioning of food and non-food relief materials, light search and rescue equipment and communication equipments are important for complementing the software support. Widespread awareness generation on risk reduction, mitigation and preparedness across the communities in Nepal remains equally relevant as are short-term non-structural mitigation initiatives to be accommodated within the CAP time frame.

Response plan

To fulfil the above needs, the strategy for the natural disaster management sector will:

- have a multi-stakeholder dimension to include the HMGN, civil society, corporate sector and most importantly the community (as the ultimate beneficiary);
- take a multi-hazard approach (to include urban and rural areas);
- focus on the pre-disaster preparedness and response phases of the disaster management cycle;
- emphasize protection of children, women, elderly population, disadvantaged groups (DAGs) and other physically and socially vulnerable groups.

Objectives

The overall goal of the sector is to prepare for an emergency response to natural disasters in order to reduce loss of life and property and suffering from the impact of hazards. Its more specific objectives are the following:

- Disaster management capacities of the Government and non-government stakeholders in the health, education, water supply and sanitation;
- Hazard sensitive risk and vulnerability reduction initiatives undertaken in both urban and rural settings;
- Community based disaster preparedness measures undertaken to reduce the threats of disease, lack of access to basic health care, malnutrition, disruption of education and lack of special protection;
- District Development Committees (DDCs) and municipalities develop preparedness and response plans for hazards of different types and scales and including enhancement of search & rescue capacities;
- Develop a common approach to natural disaster preparedness and response through the preparation of interagency contingency plans.
- Build capability to conduct an effective rapid assessment at time of disaster.

Key partners

UNDP (lead), UNICEF, WHO, OCHA, NRCS, Oxfam GB, LWF, National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET), National Centre for Disaster Management (NCDM). The different agencies would be working on their own area of core competencies but in close coordination for achieving the sectoral results.

Indicators

- Number of doctors and paramedical staff trained in emergency response management, non-structural strengthening works undertaken in hospitals and number of drinking water sources identified that would be accessible in the event of a major disaster in the Kathmandu Valley and cities outside it identified.
- Number of critical infrastructure like schools that have instituted a vulnerability reduction plan and contingency plan to restore education services and strategy for dealing with separated children and orphans in place and training materials and guidelines for psychosocial support available.
- Number of prioritised vulnerable community groups whose capacities have been built in disaster preparedness including provision of critical items for immediate relief.
- Number of draft DDC / municipality preparedness and response plans developed by the end of the project period and support provided for its execution.
- Inter-agency contingency plan developed and updated.
- Number of key staff members of respective agencies identified and trained on disaster assessment in their own sectoral areas.

Monitoring

A coordination committee will be established at the central level to monitor the field level activities through joint monitoring visits and regular reporting. Existing regional / project office / staff of partner organisations will monitor activities at the field level.

Implications of not responding

HMGN and civil society would exhibit an uncoordinated and erratic response, thus turning manageable hazards into disasters; The impact on communities from different hazards in terms of mortality, morbidity and infrastructure and economic losses would not be reduced; The high degree of vulnerability to multiple hazards would further destabilise the already insecure socio-political system in Nepal; The hazard prone areas would continue to be unable to cope with the natural hazards with low capacity for response and continued geographical inaccessibility to search and rescue teams.

3.10 MINE ACTION

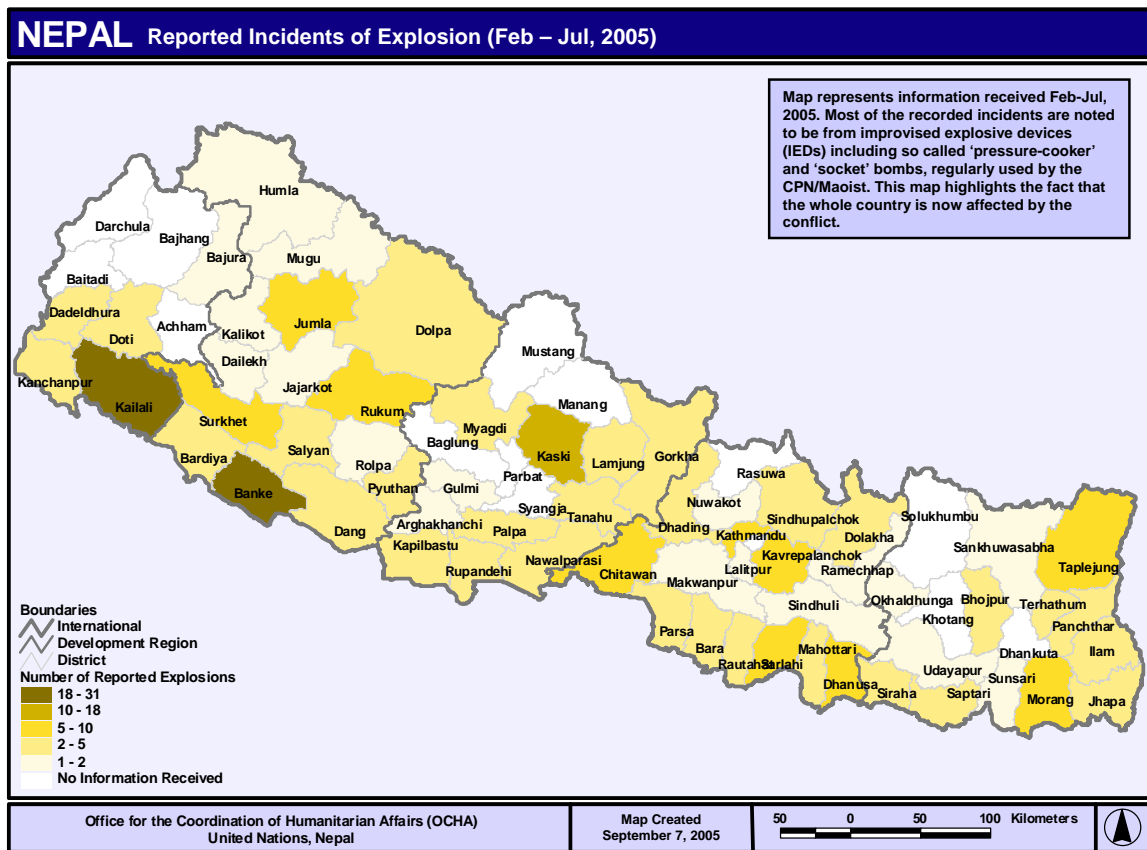
Needs analysis

The use of explosive devices by both parties to the conflict has resulted in hundreds of deaths and injuries annually, both to combatants and to civilians. Initial surveillance indicates that the majority of casualties are due to an extensive use by the CPN (Maoist) of improvised explosive devices (IEDs), rather than to mines and IEDs used by the security forces. However, should the conflict cause large-scale movements of people, the number of mine casualties could rise significantly.

Socket bombs (improvised hand grenades) tend to be the key unexploded ordnance (UXO) post engagement causing risk to civilian populations. CPN (Maoist) also makes use of larger IEDs such as pressure-cooker bombs to destroy buildings, pylons, telecom towers and other structures, as well as in roadside ambushes of military and civilian vehicles, including buses and ambulances. Most devices appear to be detonated on command through use of timers, radio signals or other devices. Very few devices used by the CPN (Maoist) appear to be victim activated.

The security forces have also been reported to be laying mines as defensive perimeters around military installations and infrastructure such as bridges, dams and pylons, as well as around potential vantage points above military installations. There are concerns that mines laid around structures on high ground, might be subject to landslides. The Government has claimed that the RNA has planted mines only around army posts using safety procedures and using adequate marking. However, there are counterclaims that the RNA does not always fence the area, does not always notify the local villagers of this threat, does not always mark the mine field and if it moves on, does not always detonate, disable or remove the mines before leaving. Anecdotal evidence would suggest that other components of the security forces, such as the armed police, are more likely to use IEDs than mines for defensive perimeters, and are less likely to map or to mark them. One final hazard that should be mentioned concerns the site choice and safety of ammunition storage areas in Kathmandu Valley

given that it is in an earthquake zone. There is concern that there may be ammunition storage areas within the built-up areas, perhaps close to medical facilities and schools.



Relevant conventions

Nepal is not a signatory to the 1997 Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, although the Government did announce in June 2004, that it would form a committee to examine the issues involved. Initial surveillance indicates that most injuries and deaths from explosive devices thus far are due to actions of a Non-State Entity, not to actions of the State Party itself. Further, most IEDs used by the Non-State Entity do not appear to be victim activated and thus are not covered by the Convention. Thus, advocacy relating only to mines and the Convention is unlikely to be well received, particularly by the RNA, which has been a key target of IEDs deployed by the CPN (Maoist). Nepal is also not a signatory to the 1980 Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons. Protocol V of this Convention, which has not yet been entered into force, would make State Parties controlling an area with explosive remnants of war responsible for identifying and clearing such munitions following the cessation of hostilities. It also would require State Parties to use "all feasible precautions" to protect civilians from the risks and effects of explosive remnants of war.

Preliminary surveillance

Accurate, comprehensive data about incidents is a critical component in formulating an effective, targeted response. Gathering data is difficult as there is no government centralised collection system. There have been a number of missions on the issue of explosive devices in Nepal including on how best to carry out accurate surveillance. The conclusion generally has been that the problem is not yet large enough nor the climate sufficiently conducive to justify the cost of establishing a database such as IMSMA (Information Management System for Mine Action). One option actively being pursued by Handicap International is to work out how best to support the current data-gathering capacity.

Two NGOs are collecting data: the Informal Sector Service Centre (INSEC) and the Nepal Campaign to Ban Landmines (NCBL). According to INSEC's *Nepal: Human Rights Yearbook 2005*, 289 people were killed by explosions in 2004, another 674 were injured, and another 52 reported to have been "terrified". NCBL's data for the same period, on its website www.nepal.icbl.org/victims_list_2004 give a figure of 389 people being killed by explosions (mines, ambush, IEDs) and 1,056 injured.

UNICEF is working with Nepali media to gather all media reports on explosions from January 1, 2002, recording such details as location, age, sex and occupation of casualties, place of occurrence, activity at time of incident, and time of day. The four maps generated by its initial media survey from November 2003 to November 2004 indicated a wide geographic spread of explosive incidents.

Response of the Mine-Risk Education (MRE) Working Group

In March 2004, UNICEF and its partners established a Mine-Risk Education Working Group comprising the key organisations concerned about the rise in deaths and injuries from explosions caused by IEDs, UXOs, and mines. This working group includes members of the Save the Children Alliance, Handicap International (HI), World Education, CARE, World Vision (WV), International Labour Organization (ILO), Porters' Progress, NRCS, INSEC, Child Workers in Nepal (CWIN), Nepal Campaign to Ban Landmines (NCBL), and Sahara. A key rationale for establishing the group was to ensure the development of an integrated social mobilisation campaign comprising the same set of messages.

The Working Group has identified a number of other challenges to implementing an effective MRE programme including the need for cooperation from both sides, the absence of a civilian mine-clearing organisation, lack of universal sign for danger, distance and low literacy levels. The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) has sent in two technical missions to support the Working Group, the second of which involved a needs-and-capacity analysis and assistance with a draft strategic framework for mine-risk education. A key premise is that an MRE programme will need to nest with existing outreach and other programmes. It should not be a separate mechanism.

UNICEF has received funds from DFID to build the capacity of the Working Group and to extend its work. This will be coordinated by a full-time mine-action focal point with extensive experience in other countries with escalating conflicts. A baseline study on the level of knowledge about explosive devices is scheduled to be completed in the last quarter of 2005. One priority, identified as urgent by all members, is the development of an "MRE emergency kit." Sahara, with the Support of Save the Children Norway, and NCBL has each developed material and training packages.

Response of the International Committee of the Red Cross

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is developing the basic capacity within the NRCS to implement mine risk education in areas where there is a threat from mines and/or IED. This means integration of a basic mine-action training/coordination capacity into headquarters and the initial training of already existing capacities in the most affected districts as well as preparing a counterpart within NRCS and strengthening NRCS capacity on Mine Action. Through already existing programmes like youth, first aid, emergency response etc., it will disseminate basic mine/IED risk education in the most affected areas. It also aims to ensure that mine/IED victims have access to the orthopaedic centre located at Green Pasture Hospital in Pokhara and supported by the ICRC. NRCS in collaboration with the ICRC will develop and maintain coordination with organisations planning or implementing mine action in Nepal.

Objectives

- Raise awareness about the risks of IEDs, UXO and mines through development and implementation of strategies and programmes to reduce and prevent accidents.
- Establish an effective, coordinated MRE programme integrated with other outreach programmes.
- Improve and extend victim-assistance programmes and knowledge about their availability.
- Improve data collection so that an effective response can be developed, both for awareness strategies and programmes and for victim-assistance and support programmes.
- Raise awareness of the issue with government with a view to supporting the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and related legal instruments.

Indicators

- Number of people reached by social-mobilisation activities.
- Number of people able to identify common explosive devices and able to recall basic MRE safety messages.
- Number of people able to recall instructions on how to help injured following an explosive incident.
- Number of people aware of possibility of further treatment at orthopaedic centre.
- Number of people of reports of incidents involving explosive devices and of casualties from explosive incidents.

Monitoring

The overall programme will be monitored through periodic review meetings of the Mine-Risk Education Working Group, organised and coordinated by the mine-action focal point. The Group will identify and jointly address issues and constraints. Each agency and organisation will monitor the progress of its own activities. Monitoring and assessment of the local situation will be coordinated with the various partners through regular sharing of information, particularly from field-based workers or joint missions.

Implications of not responding

Children and their families would remain without the knowledge of the new risks to their safety posed by IEDs, UXO and mines, of what to do if there is an explosive incident, and on where to get help.

3.11 COORDINATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Background

The deteriorating situation in Nepal, coupled with the presence of increasing numbers of UN, International Organisations, NGOs and donor agencies operating across the development-relief continuum demands intensive coordination. As a response, the UN Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) appointed the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Nepal as 'Humanitarian Coordinator' in March 2005.

At the sectoral level, new or strengthened coordination groups have emerged from the CAP preparation process, chaired by sector lead agencies. They are bringing together many of the new humanitarian actors with the government and organisations that have had a longer history of engagement in development issues in Nepal. The sectoral working groups that elaborated this CAP are shown below:

Sector	Focal point/lead agency
Human Rights, Protection and Rule of Law	OHCHR
Water and Sanitation	UNICEF
Health / Nutrition	WHO / UNICEF
Economic Recovery and Infrastructure	UNDP
Education	UNICEF / SCFUS
Shelter and Non-Food Items	UNHCR (subject to approval)
Food Security	WFP/FAO
Refugees (multi-sector)	UNHCR
Disaster Management	UNDP
Mine Action	UNICEF
IDPs	OCHA / UNHCR (subject to approval)

The main existing coordination mechanisms are:

- central-level coordination and the periodic donor coordination group meetings convened by HMGN Ministry of Finance and regular donor-only meetings;
- fortnightly meetings of bilateral donors, UN agencies and an INGO representative in the Basic Operating Guidelines group to discuss the operating environment for humanitarian and development programmes, and to consider responses to common challenges;
- donor coordination groups around education – Education for All (EFA); and Health – External Development Partners (EDP) meet on a regular basis and plan to hold periodic joint meetings with those involved in CAP or other more humanitarian activities in these sectors.

The organisations that prepared this CAP – a local equivalent of the IASC – plan to meet regularly to monitor progress on the CHAP and to consider new humanitarian developments in Nepal.

To further strengthen humanitarian coordination, OCHA will establish field offices in Nepalganj and Biratnagar by the end of 2005. These will be co-located with the newly established human rights monitoring mission of OHCHR.

OCHA launched the inter-agency Nepal Information Platform www.un.org.np in May 2005. The site contains all the latest coordination news, and includes an extensive virtual library housing recent assessments, studies and reports, and databases of "who is doing what where" and agency profiles. The site receives more than 200 visits a day, from users in Nepal and from donor capitals worldwide.

Intended outcome

UN, government and the international community work more effectively together in assessing and monitoring needs and in targeting assistance to the most vulnerable in Nepal.

Objectives

- Develop and maintain a unified picture of needs and responses to humanitarian and development challenges in Nepal and actively communicate it to partners.
- Strengthen systems for coordination, decision-making, and response for different sectors and target groups, including IDPs.
- Develop a common IDP strategy together with HMGN, the international community, and local NGOs.
- Develop and implement a common advocacy and communication strategy to improve humanitarian access and response from all key players.

Indicators

- Increase in collaborative approaches to monitor the humanitarian context and target aid.
- Number of agencies sharing relevant assessment and activities information via coordination fora and inter-agency information management tools (includes number of hits on Nepal Information Platform, www.un.org.np).
- Improvement in operational access to vulnerable groups.

3.12 SAFETY AND SECURITY OF STAFF AND OPERATIONS

Background

The security situation in Nepal is precarious for aid workers who are actively engaged in CPN (Maoist) dominated regions in remote parts of the country. Aid workers have been intimidated, harassed, threatened and extorted whilst engaged in humanitarian activities and the threat of being caught in the crossfire of the increasing instances of violent conflict remains real and ever present. The events of 1 February 2005 amplified the political and military uncertainties surrounding humanitarian work in a country with unstable communications often disrupted due to natural events or intentional targeting. The humanitarian and development work in Nepal is governed by the BOGs, a set of principles based on non-interference by conflict actors in development and humanitarian work. The effective dissemination of these Guidelines, notably through a UNDP project, is an important means of enhancing staff security and expanding operational space.

Nepal also offers a challenge to aid workers due to its lack of road networks and difficult and remote terrain. Aid work can often only be conducted by trekking several days through mountainous areas. There is also the threat of natural disasters such as landslides and floods. In these circumstances it is vital that Nepal's communications network operates well to monitor the safety and security of aid workers.

Maintaining neutrality is one of the guiding principles of international and humanitarian law. Aid workers strive to maintain this whilst faced with pressure in the CPN (Maoist) dominated countryside to seek permission to conduct humanitarian programmes and make financial contributions. The increasing use of improvised explosive devices, landmines, and other incendiary devices places aid workers at greater risk of being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

A significant additional risk is that of a major and catastrophic earthquake. Nepal's history shows that a major earthquake usually occurs every 50-75 years, with the last one having occurred in 1934. The UN Country Team is also working on contingency planning to deal with a possible pandemic of avian flu.

Under these threats, the United Nations' Minimum Operating Security Standards (MOSS) have been implemented at each duty station throughout the country to ensure the safety and security of personnel. This system is based on a national network of senior managers and volunteer wardens, and supported by professional UN Department of Safety and Security staff. Specialised security officers from UNDP, UNHCR and WFP form part of this network and senior managers based in regional areas have been appointed as area security coordinators (ASC). The Security Management Team, comprising all UN heads of agencies, meets fortnightly to assess current risks and determine mitigation strategies.

The UN security organisation in Nepal monitors the security situation, declares security phases, institutes security measures appropriate to respective security phases, prepares operating and contingency plans, implements procedures for staff to operate safely, clears all mission travel into/out of/around Nepal, monitors travel through the radio rooms, responds to emergencies, conducts training and briefings for all staff (and others), plus numerous other associated tasks. None of these activities is negotiable and all of them must be done efficiently and effectively, something that is not achievable with the current security resources and staffing.

The heavy responsibility placed on ASCs, who are required to make daily judgments on the security of their area of operations, emphasises the imperative to support them and provide adequate staff resourcing amidst the uncertain and rapidly changing security environment. The collection and analysis of security information is very challenging in a country with so little infrastructure and so much difficult terrain.

A network of strategically located radio operator stations has been set up. These stations are manned around the clock and provide a lifeline to aid workers operating alone in remote localities. These radio operators provide essential information to travellers where roads become impassable due to landslides, CPN (Maoist) bandhs, roadblocks or landmines.

Underpinning this security system is the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), which stands ready to respond to any type of emergency that threatens the well being of staff. This centre is manned by full time security staff with the resources necessary to rapidly obtain and disseminate information and to respond quickly and effectively.

The liability of staff and dependents will increase over 2005 and throughout 2006 to a total international and national staff of around 1500 plus 3000 dependents, effectively doubling the present number of UN staff and dependents. So far, there has not been any commensurate increase in staff to address a vastly increased workload and responsibility.

Information gathered under the security management system is widely shared with the donor and NGO community in the form of reports and regular briefings.

4. STRATEGIC MONITORING PLAN

Project monitoring level

The progress and performance of each project will be monitored by the implementing partners on the basis of their sector's objectives. They will prepare periodic progress and impact assessment reports for submitted to the funding agencies and for sharing with sectoral working group members. New assessments and monitoring reports released in the public domain will be posted on the Nepal Information Platform — www.un.org.np.

Sectoral monitoring

Sectoral working groups will meet periodically (for example, the Food Coordination Group meets every two months) to monitor the implementation of the sector strategy against the indicators and monitoring systems. Cumulative sector specific assessments will be prepared on the basis of project monitoring reports and shared with OCHA prior to the CAP mid-year review.

Proposed framework for overall monitoring

OCHA will continue to distribute information, including financial data, to partners, donors, UN agencies and the UN Secretariat. It will also maintain a database on humanitarian activities to reinforce the analysis and follow-up capacities of the humanitarian response through the Nepal Information Platform's "Who, What, Where" section. OCHA-Geneva will assume core responsibility for the financial tracking²⁰ of projects, based on reports from receiving agencies and donors.

Agencies participating in this appeal will undertake a mid-year review, including a financial review, in April/May 2006. In the event of a significant change in the humanitarian situation in the country before April 2006, reviews and revisions to the programme will be conducted earlier and adjustments made.

5. CRITERIA FOR PRIORITISATION OF PROJECTS

The following criteria have been used to determine the inclusion of projects in the 2005-06 consolidated appeal:

- projects must be in line with the strategic priorities, the sectoral objectives and the corresponding response plans;
- projects must be based on the logical framework and Sphere criteria, supported by baseline statistics and data from qualitative and quantitative evaluations;
- projects must be consistent and coherent with the needs assessments and have specified operational areas;
- projects must demonstrate links, though not overlap, with longstanding development initiatives where appropriate;
- projects must ensure the active participation of beneficiaries throughout the project cycle;
- submitting agencies must have the expertise, operational capacity and comparative advantage to implement the proposed projects;
- project objectives must respect specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound (SMART) criteria and include measurable indicators;
- projects must be able to demonstrate a measurable impact within the stipulated timeframe; and
- project budgets must be realistic and reflect thorough financial analysis.

Multi-layered vetting was carried out to avoid duplication of project activities; intra-sectoral project vetting was used to select and prioritise projects within each sector, and inter-sectoral vetting, chaired by the Humanitarian Coordinator, prioritised projects as per the country's macro-needs. Attached to the vetting processes were the following basic underlying tenets that all projects in the CAP would:

- protect and advance human rights;
- address the specific and priority needs of vulnerable groups targeted in this appeal;
- reinforce people's coping mechanisms;
- build the capacity of local counterparts;
- not exacerbate tensions;
- not duplicate other organisations' humanitarian or recovery interventions already planned or underway in the same region or area;

²⁰ Visit www.reliefweb.int/fts.

- include communities in their assessment of needs;
- where applicable, account for the special age, sex, caste, ethnicity and health specific needs of target groups;
- promote the use of gender analysis in planning and reporting.

6. SUMMARY: STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Strategic Priority	Corresponding Response Plan Objectives		Associated Projects
1. Expand and maintain 'operational space' for humanitarian action and development cooperation.	Protection/Human Rights/Rule of Law	Build and strengthen capacity of national partners to promote/protect human rights, expand operational space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing of OHCHR office UNIFEM - Organising and capacity building of women's groups
	Health	Identify and fill critical gaps in essential health services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WHO – Addressing gaps in health service delivery
	Education	Ensure children's access to schools, offer safe environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SCA-Ensuring protective environments
		Increase the number of children attending school and non-formal/vocational education classes in conflict areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WE-School support project
	Food Security	Provide short-term relief support to the target beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WFP –PLIC project
	Coordination and Support Services	Develop and implement a common advocacy and communication strategy to improve humanitarian access and response from all key players	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OCHA-UN Humanitarian Coordination UNDP- Dissemination of basic operation guidelines
2. Ensure effective monitoring of, advocacy and response to, major protection concerns.	Protection/Human Rights/Rule of Law	Build a nationwide system to monitor, investigate and report on violations of human rights and int'l humanitarian law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing of OHCHR office UNICEF's CAAC M&R
		Establish accountability for human rights abuses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SCA child protection system
		Coordinated advocacy/action for human rights, rule of law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SCA Legal aid campaign
		Monitor, promote and ensure legal and physical protection of vulnerable/displaced groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SCA – Reintegration of children associated with armed groups; Tracking lost children UNFPA- Psycho-social counselling for rape/GBV victims
	Health	Monitor and provide assistance to improve essential health services, including reproductive health, in vulnerable groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNFPA-RH programme in conflict
	Education	Reduce vulnerability of children, e.g. IDPs and working children, through appropriate educational interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNICEF-Addressing overcrowding in schools
	Family Shelter and Non-Food Items	Ensure that accommodation and domestic support for displaced persons meets international standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNHCR – Protection and legal assistance to displaced (subject to approval)
	Refugee	Provide international protection to individual asylum seekers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNHCR-Physical and legal protection
	Natural Disaster Risk Management	Undertake hazard sensitive risk reduction initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WHO-Earthquake risk mitigation
	Mine Action	Advocate to support Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNICEF-Mine Risk Education
Coordination and Support Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Develop a common IDP strategy with major stakeholders -Develop and implement a common communication strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OCHA humanitarian coordination 	

Strategic Priority	Corresponding Response Plan Objectives		Associated Projects
3. Ensure the provision of basic services for people in need by linking humanitarian response with longer-term goals and building the capacity of civil society and pre-existing structures.	Protection/Human Rights/Rule of Law	Build capacity of national partners to ensure multi-disciplinary efforts in providing appropriate remedial action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNICEF-Preparedness and strengthening: CAAG
	Water and Sanitation	Establish mechanism and capacity for a quick response to water and sanitation needs of 65, 000 IDPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WHO-Country capacity building LWF-Response programme for potential IDPs UNICEF- Conflict response preparedness for water supply and sanitation
	Health	To build MOH capacity to respond timely and adequately to providing essential health care packages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NRCS-Blood service UNICEF- Essential drugs programme MDM-HIV prevention
	Economic Recovery and Infrastructure	Support conflict affected vulnerable groups in rural and urban areas by providing income generating opportunities and building productive infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNDP-Livelihood programme ILO- Infrastructure rebuilding SCF-Economic recovery DEPROSC-Creation of community assets CARE-Livelihood protection
	Education	<p>Provide appropriate educational responses and educational support to protect vulnerable children</p> <p>Provide students with complementary services, such as nutrition, ECD and health including psychosocial counselling</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LWF-Renovation of school facilities SCA-Peace education SCA/PLAN – Renovation UNESCO-Community-based NFE UNICEF – Overcrowding in Urban Schools
	Family Shelter and Non-Food Items	<p>Provide basic materials required to rebuild homes and necessary temporary shelter to either prevent displacement or support return</p> <p>Provide emergency shelter and domestic relief items to those affected by conflict/natural disasters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LWF-Safe shelter programme SCA-Humanitarian support to IDPs
	Food Security	Improve short-term food security of target beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WE-Working with women
		Create basic community assets and mitigate vulnerability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FAO-Strengthening capacity of vulnerable women farmers
		Ensure resumption of disrupted agricultural activities for most vulnerable families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FAO-Strengthening food security and enhancing livelihoods
Refugees	Provide legal and physical protection to refugees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LWF-Environmental initiatives 	

Strategic Priority	Corresponding Response Plan Objectives		Associated Projects
<p>4. Develop systems for common assessment, analysis of need and coordination of emergency preparedness and response.</p>	Water and Sanitation	Develop capacity for emergency water supply and sanitation facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNICEF-Response programme for potential IDPs
	Health	To identify and fill gaps in public health surveillance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNICEF-Preparedness to provide care for IDPs UNICEF-Emergency response for conflict WHO-Disease surveillance
	Food Security	Acquire and consolidate emergency preparedness capabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WFP-Emergency preparedness
	Education	Work with the MOES / DOE and selected municipalities to develop education in emergency plans in line with INEE standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNICEF- Preparedness Plan For Rapid Response to Meet Educational Needs of Children in Emergencies
	Natural Disaster Risk Management	<p>Identify multi-hazard prone districts to enable regional prioritisation</p> <p>Support DDCs and municipalities to develop preparedness and response plans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNICEF-Natural disaster response preparedness NRCS-Community based disaster preparedness NSET-Community emergency response NSET-Earthquake preparedness for critical families OXFAM-Flood preparedness NCDM-Coping mechanism on disaster preparedness UNDP-disaster management programme
	Coordination and Support Services	<p>Develop and maintain a unified picture of needs and responses to humanitarian and development challenges in Nepal and actively communicate to partners</p> <p>Strengthen systems of coordination, decision-making and response for different sectors and target groups, including IDPs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OCHA Humanitarian Coordination

**Table II : Consolidated Appeal for
Nepal 2005**

List of Projects - By Sector
as of 23 September 2005
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Compiled by OCHA on the basis of information provided by the respective appealing organisation.

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Project Code	Appealing Agency	Sector/Activity	Original Requirements
AGRICULTURE			
NEP-05/A02	FAO	Strengthening food security of conflict affected households in Nepal	2,000,000
NEP-05/A03	FAO	Strengthening the capacity of vulnerable women farmers for household food security, improved nutrition and health	875,000
NEP-05/A01	WE	Working With Women to Improve Food Security in the most Vulnerable Communities affected by Conflict	350,000
Sub total for AGRICULTURE			3,225,000
COORDINATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES			
NEP-05/CSS03	NRCS	Community Based Disaster Preparedness Programme	230,532
NEP-05/CSS05	NSET	Community Emergency Response	113,676
NEP-05/CSS06	NSET	Earthquake Preparedness of Critical Facilities in Kathmandu Valley by non-structural mitigation	60,000
NEP-05/CSS01	WFP	Emergency Preparedness-Mounting Operational Stand-by Capacity in Nepal	513,351
NEP-05/CSS07	OXFAM UK	Flood Preparedness and Response in Central and Western Terai Region of Nepal	215,000
NEP-05/CSS04	WHO	Health sector earthquake risk mitigation and capacity building for mass casualty incidents	125,526
NEP-05/CSS09	UNDP	Information management, planning and capacity analysis and building for disaster risk management	800,000
NEP-05/CSS02	UNICEF	Natural disaster response preparedness for mitigating threats to children and women	856,250
NEP-05/CSS08	NCDM	Strengthening local coping mechanism on disaster preparedness of Matatirtha Village Development Committee (VDC), Kathmandu	85,000
NEP-05/CSS10	UNICEF	UNICEF Coordination and Management Unit	275,000
NEP-05/CSS11	OCHA	United Nations Humanitarian Coordination	3,170,000
Sub total for COORDINATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES			6,444,335

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Project Code	Appealing Agency	Sector/Activity	Original Requirements
ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INFRASTRUCTURE			
NEP-05/ER/I03	DEPROSC/Nepal	Creation of community assets for economic recovery and strengthening basic services in conflict affected area	498,682
NEP-05/ER/I02	ILO	Infrastructure Rebuilding for Economic Recovery	988,750
NEP-05/ER/I01	UNDP	Livelihood support to IDPs in urban areas	943,000
NEP-05/ER/I04	CARE Nepal	Livelihoods Protection of Conflict Affected Households	470,000
Sub total for ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INFRASTRUCTURE			2,900,432
EDUCATION			
NEP-05/E04	UNICEF	Address Overcrowding in Urban Schools caused by Influx of IDPs and Children Affected by Conflict	1,191,000
NEP-05/E06	SC Alliance	Ensuring protective and stimulating school environment in remote and conflict affected areas	696,500
NEP-05/E09	UNESCO	Meeting urgent needs of IDP youths: Integrated vocational education	200,000
NEP-05/E07	SC Alliance	Peace education for children in conflict affected schools and communities	508,356
NEP-05/E02	UNICEF	Preparedness Plan For Rapid Response to Meet Educational Needs of Children in Emergencies	407,000
NEP-05/E08	SC Alliance and PLAN Nepal	Provision of child friendly space in conflict affected areas	583,246
NEP-05/E05	SC Alliance and PLAN Nepal	Psycho-social support and care to conflict affected, traumatised children of IDPs	478,875
NEP-05/E03	WE	Reducing the Vulnerability of Orphans and IDP Children and Youth in the most Conflict-Affected Areas through Education	480,000
NEP-05/E01	LWF Nepal	Renovation of school facilities in conflict affected areas	216,231
Sub total for EDUCATION			4,761,208
FOOD			
NEP-05/F01	WFP	Food Assistance to Bhutanese Refugees in Nepal	9,127,457
Sub total for FOOD			9,127,457

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Project Code	Appealing Agency	Sector/Activity	Original Requirements
HEALTH			
NEP-05/H07	WHO	Coordination of Humanitarian Action in Health	567,384
NEP-05/H09	CAM	Emergency Health Care in Jajarkot District	220,000
NEP-05/H06	UNFPA	Emergency reproductive health services for conflict affected populations	1,290,000
NEP-05/H05	UNICEF	Emergency response to provide care and support for survivors of conflict/emergency-related sexual violence	352,820
NEP-05/H02	UNICEF	Essential drugs for emergency preparedness and response	375,000
NEP-05/H10	MDM	HIV prevention and control program for high risk groups in conflict affected areas	185,000
NEP-05/H03	UNICEF	Monitoring of immunisation coverage in selected conflict affected districts	64,800
NEP-05/H04	UNICEF	Preparedness and emergency nutrition response for internally displaced people (IDP) and vulnerable groups in conflict areas	673,000
NEP-05/H01	NRCS	Safe Quality Blood Service in conflict	526,055
NEP-05/H08	WHO	Supporting and improving communicable disease surveillance and outbreak control	233,042
Sub total for HEALTH			4,487,101
MINE ACTION			
NEP-05/MA01	UNICEF	Mine-Risk Education	159,100
Sub total for MINE ACTION			159,100
MULTI-SECTOR			
NEP-05/MS01	LWF Nepal	Development and environmental initiatives in Bhutanese refugee host community	323,000
NEP-05/MS02	UNHCR	Physical and legal protection to asylum-seekers and refugees in Nepal	6,865,442
NEP-05/MS03A	WFP	Protecting Livelihoods in Crisis (PLIC)	3,201,237
NEP-05/MS03B	UNICEF	Protecting Livelihoods in Crisis (PLIC)	1,170,234
Sub total for MULTI-SECTOR			11,559,913

**Table II : Consolidated Appeal for
Nepal 2005**

List of Projects - By Sector
as of 23 September 2005
<http://www.reliefweb.int/fts>

Compiled by OCHA on the basis of information provided by the respective appealing organisation.

Page 4 of 5

Project Code	Appealing Agency	Sector/Activity	Original Requirements
PROTECTION/HUMAN RIGHTS/RULE OF LAW			
NEP-05/P/HR/RL10	NRC	Assessment and monitoring of protection and related needs for IDPs and other vulnerable groups	400,000
NEP-05/P/HR/RL08	OHCHR	Establishment of an OHCHR monitoring office in Nepal	11,946,250
NEP-05/P/HR/RL06	SC Alliance	Legal Aid and Protection Awareness Campaign	499,697
NEP-05/P/HR/RL04	SC Alliance	Promoting Community based Child Protection System	400,000
NEP-05/P/HR/RL09	UNHCR	Protection and legal assistance to displaced persons and others in Nepal	1,856,000
NEP-05/P/HR/RL11	UNIFEM	Protection of women's human rights in conflict affected areas	499,500
NEP-05/P/HR/RL07	UNFPA	Psychosocial support to out-of-school adolescents (at risk of gender based violence) in conflict affected districts	600,000
NEP-05/P/HR/RL02	UNICEF	Recovery and Reintegration for Child Victims of Violence and Exploitation, including children associated with armed groups (CAAG)	463,637
NEP-05/P/HR/RL03	SC Alliance	Reintegration and rehabilitation of children associated with armed groups	207,000
NEP-05/P/HR/RL01	UNICEF	Strengthening and expanding the monitoring and reporting system on children's rights violations in armed conflict	568,182
NEP-05/P/HR/RL05	SC Alliance	Tracking and responding to the needs of lost children	230,998
Sub total for PROTECTION/HUMAN RIGHTS/RULE OF LAW			17,671,264
SECURITY			
NEP-05/S01	UNDP	Dissemination of Basic Operating Guidelines	493,000
NEP-05/S02	UNDSS (previously UNSECOORD)	Reinforcement of the national Field Security Coordination System in support of all United Nations programmes in Nepal	836,400
Sub total for SECURITY			1,329,400
SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS			
NEP-05/S/NF02	SC Alliance	Humanitarian support to the people affected by conflict (IDPs) and by natural disasters	490,000
NEP-05/S/NF03	UNHCR	Provision of basic shelter and domestic items to displaced persons and vulnerable individuals and families	509,000
NEP-05/S/NF01	LWF Nepal	Safe shelter and non-food assistance to conflict and natural disaster affected communities	489,600
Sub total for SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS			1,488,600

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Project Code	Appealing Agency	Sector/Activity	Original Requirements
WATER AND SANITATION			
NEP-05/WS02	LWF Nepal	Conflict response preparedness for water and sanitation for potential IDPs	120,415
NEP-05/WS03	UNICEF	Conflict response preparedness for water supply and sanitation needs of IDP children and women	731,800
NEP-05/WS01	WHO	Country capacity building to plan and respond to water supply and sanitation (WSS) needs of new IDPs	500,000
Sub total for WATER AND SANITATION			1,352,215
Grand Total			64,506,025

ANNEX I. BASIC OPERATING GUIDELINES FOR UN AGENCIES

Basic Operating Guidelines for UN Agencies

1. Do not make contributions outside UN programme objectives -- whether in supplies, materials, commodities, equipment or payments -- to political parties, military, para-military or other armed groups or individuals associated with such groups.
2. Seek to recruit a diverse staff and associated personnel and do this on the basis of their professional qualifications and suitability alone. The UN does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. In the performance of their professional duties and responsibilities, UN staff and associated personnel only report to and receive instructions from duly designated UN personnel.
3. Do not tolerate the theft, diversion or misuse of development and humanitarian assistance resources -- whether in the form of supplies, materials, commodities, equipment, cash or technical assistance -- provided or otherwise mobilised by United Nations Agencies for use in development and humanitarian assistance programmes and activities, including the use of such resources by other groups and entities with which UN Agencies work in partnership in such programmes and activities.
4. Prohibit the transportation of armed groups or individuals in or by means of vehicles or any other transportation equipment owned and operated directly by UN Agencies or by third parties under loan or other contractual agreements with UN Agencies. This "NO ARMS ON BOARD" policy applies to the conveyance of military and para-military personnel and other comparable armed or uniformed groups and individuals and/or resources belonging to or for use by such personnel, groups and individuals.
5. Are to have free and unhindered access to civilian populations in need, including the transportation, distribution and end-use monitoring of development and humanitarian assistance resources, and to working conditions that ensure the safety, security and protection of UN staff and associated personnel. In this connection, UN Agencies will not tolerate any act of physical or verbal abuse, intimidation, threat, harassment or other form of coercion, violence or aggression directed against their staff and associated personnel, whether internationally or locally recruited.
6. Work in premises that are inviolable. The property and assets of UN Agencies, wherever located and by whomsoever held, are immune from search, requisition, confiscation, expropriation and other form of interference, whether by executive, administrative, judicial or legislative action. Such property and assets also include telecommunications equipment and UN personal identity documentation.
7. Emphasise that the non-respect or violation of any of the above basic operating guidelines could occasion negative consequences for the continuance of development and humanitarian assistance programmes and activities including a suspension or cessation of assistance, the exact nature and scope of which would be determined after consultation with the parties or individuals involved and affected as well as their duly designated representatives.
8. Encourage all programme partners to adhere to the principles and recognised standards applicable to development and humanitarian assistance programmes as embodied in: international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law; related conventions and resolutions adopted by the Member States of the United Nations; and with specific respect to humanitarian assistance programmes, internationally recognised codes of conduct such as the "Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs (non-governmental organisations) in Disaster Relief" and the Sphere Project "Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response."
9. Are mindful that in the case of armed conflict not of an international character, the parties to the conflict shall be bound to apply, as a minimum under international humanitarian law, provisions whereby: i) persons taking no active part in hostilities, including members of the armed forces who have laid down their arms and those placed "hors de combat" ("out of action") by sickness, wounds, detention or any other cause, shall in all circumstances be treated humanely, without any adverse distinction founded on race, colour, religion or faith, sex, birth or wealth, or any other similar criteria; ii) the wounded and sick shall be collected and cared for.

ANNEX II. BASIC OPERATING GUIDELINES

**Basic Operating Guidelines agreed to
By Undersigned Agencies in Nepal**

Based on principles agreed internationally and in Nepal, we the undersigned have adopted the following Basic Operating Guidelines for all development and, if necessary, humanitarian assistance in Nepal.

1. We are in Nepal to contribute to improvements in the quality of life of the people of Nepal. Our assistance focuses on reducing poverty, meeting basic needs and enabling communities to become self-sufficient.
2. We work through the freely expressed wishes of local communities, and we respect the dignity of people, their culture, religion and customs.
3. We provide assistance to the poor and marginalised people of Nepal, regardless of where they live and who they are. Priorities for assistance are based on need alone, and not on any political ethnic or religious agenda.
4. We ensure that our assistance is transparent and we involve poor people and their communities in the planning, management and implementation of programmes. We are accountable to those whom we seek to assist and to those providing the resources.
5. We seek to ensure that our assistance tackles discrimination and social exclusion, most notably based on gender, ethnicity, caste and religion.
6. We recruit staff on the basis of suitability and qualification for the job, and not on the basis of political or any other considerations.
7. We do not accept our staff and development partners being subjected to violence, abduction, harassment or intimidation, or being threatened in any manner.
8. We do not work where staff are forced to compromise core values or principles.
9. We do not accept our assistance being used for any military, political or sectarian purposes.
10. We do not make contributions to political parties and do not make any forced contributions in cash or kind.
11. Our equipment, supplies and facilities are not used for purposes other than those stated in our programme objectives. Our vehicles are not used to transport persons or goods that have no direct connection with the development programme. Our vehicles do not carry armed or uniformed personnel.
12. We do not tolerate the theft, diversion or misuse of development or humanitarian supplies. Unhindered access of such supplies is essential.
13. We urge all those concerned to allow full access by development and humanitarian personnel to all people in need of assistance, and to make available, as far as possible, all necessary facilities for their operations, and to promote the safety, security and freedom of movement of such personnel.
14. We expect and encourage all parties concerned to comply strictly with their obligations under International Humanitarian Law and to respect Human Rights.

Note: We seek to ensure our actions are consistent with the Principles of the international Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's Code of Conduct. For more information, please consult: http://www.reliefweb.int/oca_ol/civilians/ and <http://www.ifrc.org/publicat/conduct/code.asp>

Ulf Wernicke
Director
GTZ

David Wood
Head
DFID Nepal

H.E. Ingrid Ofsted
Ambassador
Royal Norwegian Embassy

Joerg Frieden
Resident Coordinator
SDC

Gert Meinecke
Charge d'Affaires
Royal Danish Embassy

Jan de Witte
Director
SNV Nepal

Jean-Marc Mangin
First Secretary
Canadian Cooperation Office

Rudiger Wenk
Charge d' Affairs
European Union

Asko Luukkainen
Charge d' Affairs
Finish Embassy

Eitaro Mitoma
Resident Representative
JICA

ANNEX III. BACKGROUND ASSUMPTIONS

Background Assumptions used for Contingency Planning Caseload Scenarios

a) 65,000 IDPs

15,000 IDPs IN 15 DISTRICT HQS

- 15 out of 35-40 hill/mountain districts
- 1,000 IDPs per district HQs
- Most-vulnerable living in camps

20,000 IDPs IN REGIONAL URBAN CENTRES

- Nepalgunj, Dharan/Biratnagar/Inaruwa, Bhairawa, Hetauda etc. In camps - proportion may be scattered amongst host communities
- Adult males may go for work to India
- Problems to have access to services (health centres)

20,000 IDPs IN TERAJ DISTRICTS

- Displaced from within Terai districts
- Non-IDPs, but without shelter
- IDPs may stay away from district HQs but in camps – complete families
- Hill populations not at ease with Terai ethnic groups; will not go to India

10,000 IDPs IN KATHMANDU VALLEY

- 30,000 newly displaced (mostly male), but only 10,000 need (some) assistance – incl. men, women and children. Scattered – not in camps

b) 1.4 million/50K HH remaining/returning

Rural population in 15-20 out of 35-40 hill/ mountain districts size of population in need will vary according to sector (food/health/nutrition/education/WES)

EXAMPLE 1: POPULATION IN NEED OF MEDICINE

35-40 districts = 8 million people

Rural population is 80 % = 6.4 million people

1/3 of population affected: 2.1 million people

Only 2/3 of affected population will seek care: 1.4 million people

EXAMPLE 2: POPULATION IN NEED OF FOOD

19 districts – mid and far west – chronically affected

50,000 households in need of food

ANNEX IV. ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACF	Action Contre La Faim
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AMDA	Association of Medical Doctors of Asia
ART	
ASC	Area Security Coordinators
ASRH	Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health
BASE	Backward Society Education
BOGs	Basic Operating Guidelines
BPKIHS	Koirala Institute of Health Sciences
CA	Consolidated Appeals
CAAG	Child Association with Arm Group
CAP	Consolidated Appeals Process
CBDP	Community Based Disaster Relief Committee
CFS	Child Friendly Schools initiative
CHAP	Common Humanitarian Action Plan
CLC	Community Learning Centre
CPN (Maoist)	Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist)
CPWG	Child Protection Working Group
CRC	Committee on the Rights of Child
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CWIN	Child Workers in Nepal Concerned Centre
DAGs	Disadvantaged Groups
DCWB	District Child Welfare Board
DDC	District Development Committee
DDRR	Disarmament, Demobilisation, Rehabilitation and Reintegration
DEPROSC	Development Project Service Centre
DfID	Department of International Development
DHO	District Health Office
DoE	Department of Education
ECD	Early Child Development
EDCC	Epidemiology and Disease Control Centre
EDP	External Development Partners (Forum)
EFA	Education for All
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCHVs	Female Community Health Workers
FFW	Food-for-Work
FSWs	Female Sex Workers
FTS	Financial Tracking Service
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GICHD	Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining
GIS	Geographic Information System
GoN	Government of Nepal
HDS	Health and Demographic Survey
HIV/AIDS	Human Immuno-deficiency Virus/Acquired Immuno-deficiency Syndrome
HMGN	His Majesty's Government of Nepal
HMIS	Health Management Information System
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ICT	Information Communication and Technology
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IDUs	Injecting Drug Users
IEC	Information, Education, and Communication
IED	Improvised Explosive Device
IFRC	International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
ILO	International Labour Organization
INGO	International Non-Government Organisation
INSEC	Informal Sector Service Centre
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
JAM	Joint Assessment Mission

KVEPI	Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Preparedness Initiative
LWF	Lutheran World Federation
MCM	Mass Casualty Management
MDM	Médecins du Monde
MoAC	Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
MoES	Ministry of Education and Sports
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
MoHP	Ministry of Health and Population
MOSS	Minimum Operating Security Standards
MoWR	Ministry of Water Resources
MRE	Mine Risk Education
NCBL	Nepal Campaign to Ban Landmines
NCDM	National Centre for Disaster Management
NEWAH	Nepal Water for Health
NFI	Non-food Items
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
NHSP-IP	Nepal Health Sector Programme – Implementation Plan
NNTA	Nepal National Teachers Association
NR	Nepali Rupees
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
NRCS	Nepal Red Cross Society
NSET	National Society for Earthquake Technology
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
PABSON	Private and Boarding Schools Organisation Nepal
PEP	Post-Exposure Prophylaxis
PLIC	Protecting Livelihoods in Crisis
PLWHA	People Living with HIV/AIDS
PPERS	Pre-positioning Emergency Respiratory Stores
PRC	Post-Rape Care
PRRO	Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
PTA	Parent Teachers Association
RNA	Royal Nepalese Army
RRN	Rural Reconstruction Nepal
RTI	Respiratory Tract Infection
RWSS	Rural Water Supply and Sanitation
RWSSFDB	Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Fund Development Board
SAPPROS	Support Activities for Poor Producers of Nepal
SCA	Save the Children Alliance
SCJ	Save the Children – Japan
SCN	Save the Children – Norway
SEARO	Southeast Asia Regional Office
SMC	School Management Committee
SPHERE	A Project on Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
SCUS	Save the Children – United States
STWSSP	Small Town Water Supply and Sanitation Project
ToT	Training of Trainers
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHC	United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
US	United States

UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
VCPC	Village Child Protection Committee
VCT	Voluntary Counselling and Testing
VDC	Village Development Committee
WATSAN	Water and Sanitation
WE	World Education
WES	Water and Environmental Sanitation
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WVI	World Vision International

Consolidated Appeal Feedback Sheet

If you would like to comment on this document please do so below and fax this sheet to + 41-22-917-0368 (Attn: CAP Section) or scan it and email us: CAP@ReliefWeb.int Comments reaching us before 28 February 2006 will help us improve the CAP in time for 2007. Thank you very much for your time.

Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) Section, OCHA

Please write the name of the Consolidated Appeal on which you are commenting:

1. Is the context and prioritised humanitarian need clearly presented?
How could it be improved?

2. To what extent do response plans address humanitarian needs?
How could it be improved?

3. To what extent are roles, responsibilities, and coordination mechanisms clearly presented?
How could it be improved?

4. To what extent are budgets realistic and in line with the proposed actions?
How could it be improved?

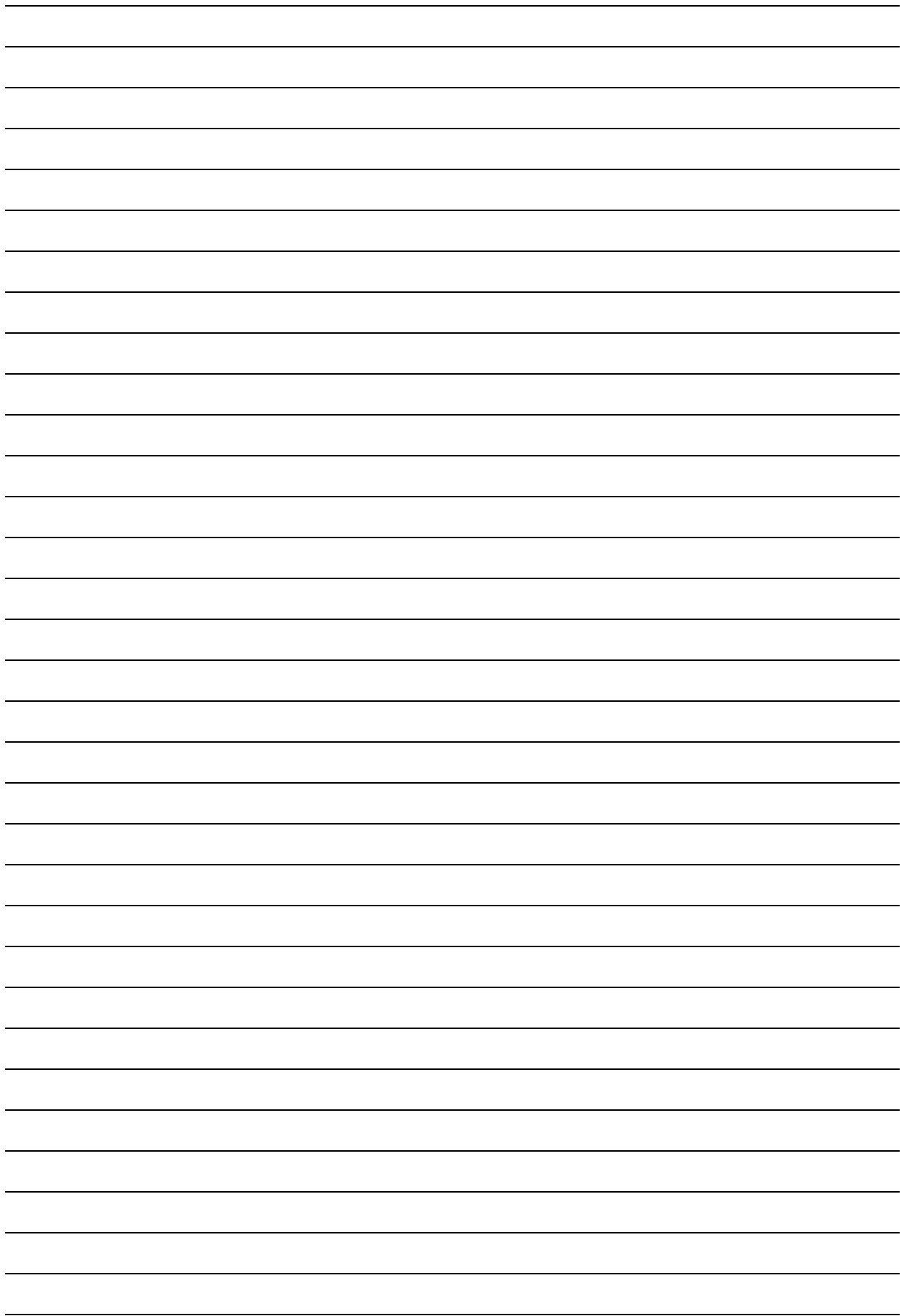
5. Is the document lay-out and format clear and well written?
How could it be improved?

Please make any additional comments on another sheet or by email.

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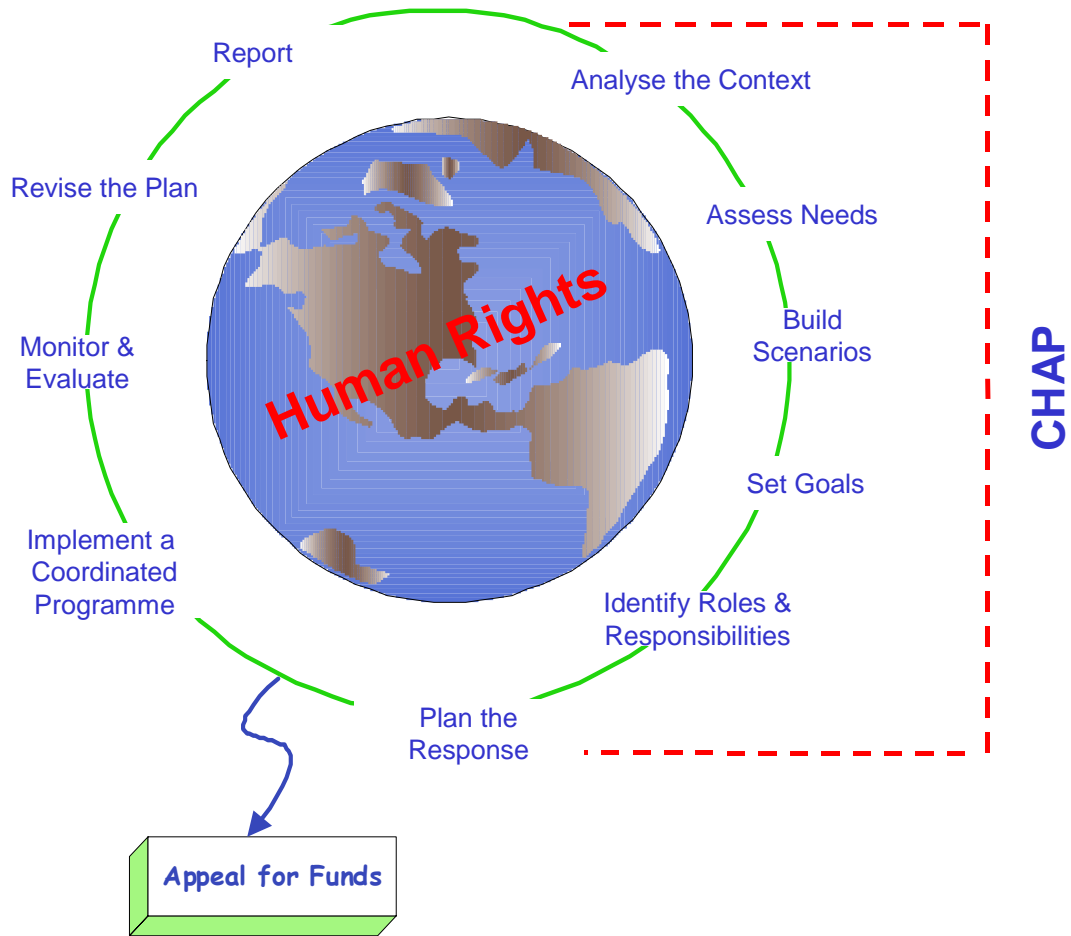
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**OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS
(OCHA)**

**NEW YORK
UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017**

USA

**GENEVA OFFICE
PALAIS DES NATIONS
1211 GENEVA 10**

SWITZERLAND