

November 2021

Project Report: Emergency Disaster Response

Supporting Flood and Landslide Affected Displaced Population in Tikapur Municipality,
Kailali District of Nepal



Submitted to: **Sowers Action, Hong Kong, China**
Submitted by: **Volunteer Corps Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal**

From the President

Volunteer Corps Nepal has always been true to its “Act First Strategy”. And, we are capable to keep our word, and respond to disaster as soon as possible only because of the support of benefactor like you. Thus, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Sowers Action, Hong Kong, China for your contribution in support of our response to Flood affected families in Tikapur Municipality, Kailali district of Nepal. Your financial contribution has backed us to continue our mission of serving communities in times of need through relief distribution. With the amount we were successful in offering basic food and non-food necessities to meet the immediate needs of 350 flood affected families in Tikapur-03. People were delighted to experience this generosity, and to receive the support from you.

38 years old Sita Devi Chaudhary, who lost her everything in flood was worried about feeding her family, however she was relieved to receive the relief items through this project. She was exalted to receive your help. She said, “The ration will last us about a month and this blanket is a boon for this winter. My mother- and father- in-laws will now be able to get some warmth during this dreadful winter.”

The distribution of relief has been completed on 19th November, 2021, responding as soon as possible to the havoc caused by the flood. The residents of Rampur were eminently beholden for your assistance.

With all our gratitude,
Volunteer Corps Nepal

PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT TITLE: Supporting Flood and Landslide Affected Displaced Population in Tikapur Municipality, Kailali District of Nepal

DONOR: Sowers Action, Hong Kong, China

TARGET AREA: Tikapur Municipality, Kailali District, Nepal

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER: Volunteer Corps Nepal

PROJECT PERIOD: 1 Month (November- December 2021)

TOTAL BENEFICIARIES: 350 Households

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET: NPR. 1,426,600

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During mid- October, the sudden change in weather in Nepal, resulted into continuous heavy rainfall from 17th October to 20th October 2021. The downpour caused inundation of rivers and landslides at different part of the country. 101 people succumbed to the deadly flood and landslides, and there was a loss of NPR 4.26 Trillion of paddy.

Kailali was one of the most affected district due to flood. 4 people went missing and one was dead due to the inundation of rivers. Swelled Karnali River destroyed 64,800 tons of paddy and 18,000 hectares of land in Kailali and Kanchanpur alone.

Among all the municipalities of Kailali, Tikapur was worse hit as it is located at the bank of Karnali River. Around 350 families were displaced by the flood. Following the humanitarian crisis the disaster caused, Volunteer Corps Nepal immediately started to act by alerting the Volunteer Coordinator in Sudurpaschim Province and local volunteers, who then mobilized themselves on ground to support, and assess the need of the displaced population. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Tikapur Municipality were immediately contacted to assess the situation of the area. The immediate needs were assessed. Through the collective discussion and with the support of Ward Chairperson, Mr. Ram Sewak Mahato, ward no. 3, Rampur was selected as the relief distribution area. No relief had reached there, and people were in dire need of help.

The team then started to ponder on relieving the distress of affected people by responding to their urgent needs required to be fulfilled to survive through this winter. Considering the same, Volunteer Corps Nepal in coordination with Sowers Action, Hong Kong, China implemented “Flood Emergency Relief Response - 2021” in Tikapur, Kailali.

The overall funding for the project was NPR 1,426,600 which was contributed to VCN as an implementing partner in Nepal by Sowers Action, Hong Kong, China. The project was started straightaway in order to respond to the disaster as soon as possible.

The distribution was carried out on 19th November 2021. Relief distribution took place from Ward Office, in ward no. 3 Rampur. The distribution was carried out according to the need assessed and as per the suggestion of the ward chairperson. Total of 350 families were benefitted from our project.

1. Project Background

Nepal usually experience Monsoon from June to September. Nearly 4.26 Trillion economy of Nepal is farm dependent and around two-thirds of farm lands in Nepal are rain fed. Rain in October is sparse and less intense than monsoon. However, from 17th to 20th October 2021, there was sudden and torrential rainfall in most parts of Nepal. The rainfall was intense, causing inundation of rivers, landslides, and resulting to death of 101 people all over Nepal.

The paddy production of Nepal this year was estimated to be highest, compared to previous decades, but the rain caused destruction of 8.26 Billion worth of paddy, mostly in Sudurpaschim and eastern region of Nepal. Kailali was one of the most affected district of Nepal due to October rainfall. Around 68,400 tons of paddy in 18,000 hectares of land was swept way in Kailali and Kanchanpur district of Sudurpaschim province of Nepal, causing the loss of 1.91 Billion.

Tikapur Municipality in Kailali District faced the major amount of loss during the flood, displacing more than 350 households. Inundation of Karnali River caused flooding of more than dozens villages in ward no. 3, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. Four people went missing in Kailali district and 1 was killed by the inundation. Hundreds of hectares of paddy farmland had been destroyed by flood.

An immediate need of humanitarian response for those displaced by flood was realized by Volunteer Corps Nepal, and thus with the support of Sowers Action, Hong Kong, China the project “Supporting Flood and Landslide Affected Displaced Population in Tikapur Municipality, Kailali District of Nepal” was formulated. The fund of 1,426,600 was released by Sowers Action for food and non-food items support for the displaced population of Tikapur Municipality. The relief support was carried out on 19th November 2021.

Tikapur Municipality is located at the bank of Karnali River (the longest river of Nepal). Every year during Monsoon, Tikapur is inundated by Karnali.

2. Update on the Situation:

Kailali - one of the nine districts of Sudurpaschim Province of Nepal - is located in South Western Part of Terai. It has 3,235 Sq. Km area, among which 40 per cent is covered by plain terai and 60 per cent is covered by hills of Chure range. Among total area of the district, 64.8 Percent of land is covered with forest and 27.8 percent land is fertile agricultural cultivated land. Kailali is divided into 12 administrative divisions, with 1 submetropolitan city, 5 municipalities, and 6 rural municipality. One of them is Tikapur Municipality.

The total population of Kailali is 775,709 of which the total population of male is 378,417 and the total population of female is 397,292. 2011 CBS have categorized Kailali as low progress district status. In addition, there was 33.6 percent poverty and the total number of poor people was 257,566 in the district. The average literacy rate is 66.32% of which female literacy is 57.05 and male literacy is 75.16%.

Agriculture is the main occupation of the district. The district is also called the "Basket of Rice". Agriculture sector includes paddy, banana, fishery that are oriented towards commercialization. Food crops, pulse crops, fruits and spices are produced in the district. Food crops and fruits are produced in larger area compare to pulses and spice crops. Around 1 lakh of youth have migrated to third countries to earn.

Most of the part of the district is in high risk of disaster. According to District Disaster Management Implementation of 2013, it is found that main cause of natural disaster is flooding. Likewise other causes are identified as landslide and soil erosion, fire draught, storm, and epidemic.

Tikapur has total 9 wards, which are scattered across 118 square kilometers of geographical area. Tikapur Municipality has total 76,084 populations with 36,245 males and 39,839 females. Among these only 58.74% females are literate. And only 3,618 females are engaged in industrial economic activity. The major caste of this municipality are Tharu, Chhetri, Brahmin, Dalit and Magar. The Human Development index (HDI) of

this Municipality is 0.409 approx. The Per Capita Income of this Municipality USD 725 Approx. Tikapur, being located at the bank of Karnali River is at high risk. Every year Tikapur is flooded during Monsoon.

Before our support, people had not received any help from any authorities in Tikapur. The number of people needing help was far more than we had targeted. People have lost their home, fields, paddy worth good money and livestock. The main occupation of people residing here is agriculture. They rear cattle and produce crops, for their survival. But now many have lost their way of income. The risk of epidemic like cholera, diarrhea and other communicable disease has increased. Winter has started in Nepal and these people have no means to save them from cold.

3. Social Impact Results

Climate change has started showing its results all over the world. The heavy rainfall in Nepal during October would otherwise not be such devastating. Karnali, which flow through Kailai, is originated in Himalayas, from Mt. Kailash in Tibet. Flood in Karnali was a consequence of Global Warming and climate change.

Disaster always comes with devastation. People's lives are affected, and a huge loss of property and infrastructures are documented. The social impact disaster has on a community takes huge efforts and time to get neutralized. The social impact of flood in Tikapur, Kailali can be pointed out as follows:

1. Loss of lives: The major impact of flood in Kailali was the loss of lives of people. 1 died while 4 are still missing. It is an intangible loss and the damage can never be fixed. This cause a social trauma and the psychological impact family members go through is unexplainable. Also, the risk of epidemic and health hazards are increased.

2. Damage to property: More than 350 families were displaced from their houses. Some lost everything they had from home, livestock to fields of paddy, some lost their houses and some were are high risk of losing everything. Most of the people in Tikapur are agriculture dependent and damage caused by flood has left them economically vulnerable.

3. Damage to infrastructures: Disaster often lead to destruction of road networks, disruption of transportation and communication, education and health access to the people. People are often stranded and would not even be able to receive help from outside.

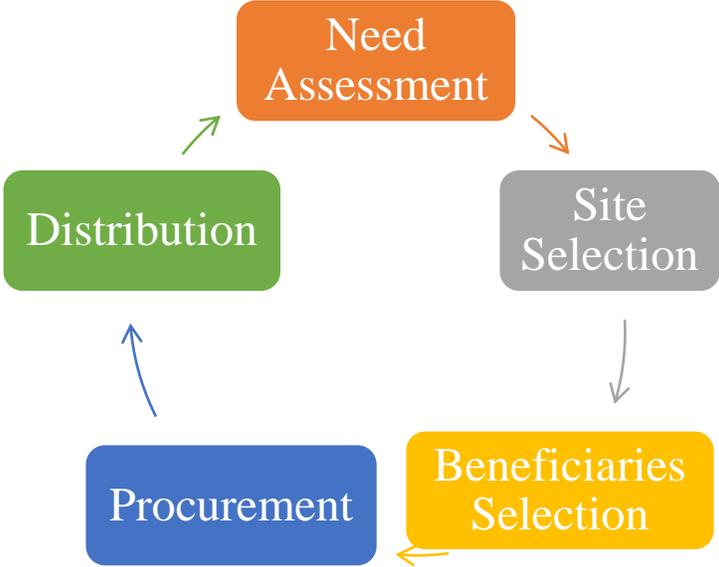
4. Low purchasing and production power: Since there have been huge loss of paddy that was ready to get harvested, the economic status of people have lowered. Price hike in the basic necessities are possible during the aftermath of the disaster. People have low economic capacity and decreased purchasing power.

4. Project Goal

Many people in the flooded areas lead precarious, subsistence lives, but this disaster adds as a social and economic disadvantage to them, especially to those belonging to low-income groups.

The goal of this project was to support displaced people with food items to reduce the risk of famine and malnutrition in displaced population. As well as to reduce the risk of disease outbreak and suffering through the support of non-food items.

5. Relief Methodology

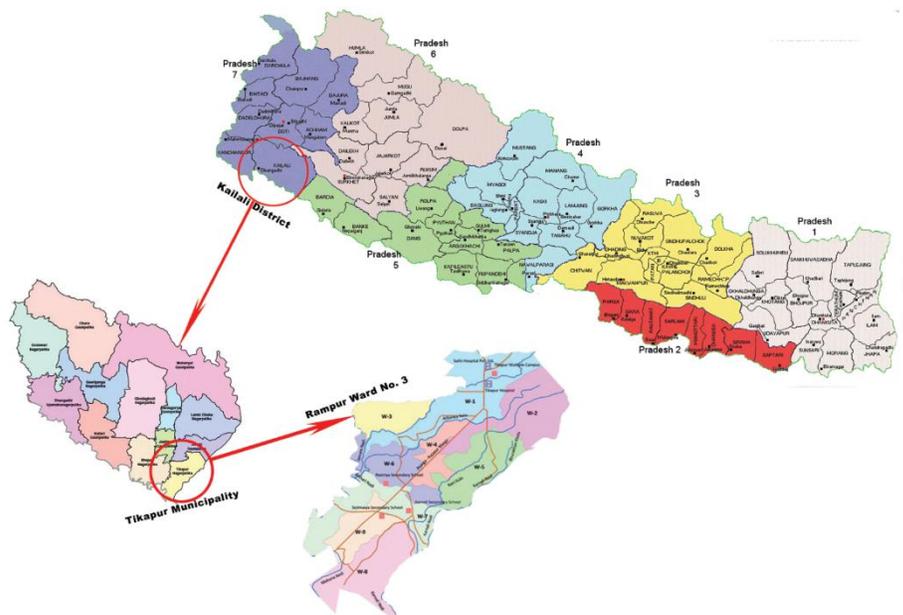


A. Need Assessment

The team from Kathmandu directly contacted the local government in Tikapur municipality to assess the impact of flood. A conversation was carried out with Mayor Tapendra Bahadur Rawal and deputy mayor Mrs. Keshari Kumari Bista. Ground level coordination was led by VCN's province Volunteer Coordinator Mr. Paras Khadka. Based on those conversations and information from our volunteers on ground, we realized that ward no. 3 need immediate response. A conversation was then carried out with ward no. 3 chairperson Ram Sewak Mahato, to conclude on necessities of victims. The specific needs and emergency relief plan for the victims was then finalized. According to those needs and plans, the requirement of basic survival necessities was realized, which were presented in the proposal.

B. Site Selection

Tikapur Municipality, Ward no. 3, Rampur of Kailali district of Sudurpaschim province was selected for the project implementation. Selection of site was done after the need-based assessment in coordination with local government representative, officials, and VCN's teams on the ground.



District Map of Nepal Showing Kailali District with the location showing the relief material distribution areas in Tikapur Municipality

C. Beneficiaries Selection

The ward office supplied a list of the most severely impacted families, who were in need of assistance. The beneficiaries' list was verified by our team of volunteers. Our preliminary number of beneficiaries were 200, however the number had to be increased to 350.

The flood affected families in Tikapur had not received relief materials yet. So, when they got the news of our relief distribution, more people than we had decided were present to ask for the relief. Thus, after receiving approval from Sowers Action, relief was distributed to 350 families according to their needs.

The most affected families were given special attention. Ward Chairperson Mr. Ram Sewak Mahato, SSP Mr. Raj Kumar Lamichhane, ward representatives, and volunteers were present during the distribution of the relief to ensure fair distribution of the materials.

D. Procurement

The procurement of food and non-food item was carried out by direct purchase process. Solu Kirana Pasal was assigned to the procurement process for food products, and Sandhya Enterprises and Suppliers was assigned to the procurement process for tarpaulins, blankets, water filters, and hygiene kits. Solu Kirana Pasal and Sandhya Enterprises and Suppliers thoroughly verified, categorized, and packaged all of the items. These companies are VCN's go-to vendors for food and non-food items. The company agreed to load the items purchased from Kathmandu to deliver by lorry in the ware house /site of the distribution.

E. Distribution

Distribution of the relief items to the beneficiaries was our utmost priority, because of the urgency of the situation. The distribution was going to be carried out on 18th November 2021, but as the number of beneficiaries had to be increased, it took place on the next day. The packages were delivered for distribution from Kathmandu, which took 2 days to

reach. For security reasons, relief was stored in APF post, and the dissemination of relief was conducted on 19th November 2021.

Dissemination of relief items were conducted from Ward No. 3 office at Rampur.

Composition of Package containing food and non-food items was based on the immediate needs of the affected population and included the items that would allow total reliance on it, at least for a month for a family of five members. The relief materials included the following:

1. Food Items:

- Rice: 25 Kg
- Daal: 1 Kg
- Cooking Oil: 1 Liter
- Salt: 1 Kg
- Beaten Rice: 2 Kg

2. Non-Food Items:

- Tarpaulins: 1 unit (18"* 33")
- Blanket: 1 unit
- Steel Water Filter with One Candle: 1 unit (10 liters)

3. Hygiene Kit:

- Soap: 2 units
- Toothbrushes: 5 units
- Toothpaste: 1 unit
- Sanitary Pads: 2 packets

As mentioned above about the increase in number of beneficiaries, the relief packages were distributed based on the need. Households who suffered more destruction from flood were prioritized. The approach we used during distribution is summarized below:

- 50 most affected households were presented with a package containing ration, hygiene kits, and blankets,

- 150 households were presented with ration and hygiene kits,
- 100 households were presented with tarpaulins and water filters, and,
- 50 households were presented with blankets.

This equates to 350 of the total number of households receiving the aid through this project. It was determined to divide the help among 350 households based on their necessities, because there were far more needy families than our aim. The ward chairperson recommended to increase the number of recipients, and oversaw the entire process of management of relief items. During distribution, a banner depicting our initiative was shown, and packages with donor and partner logos were displayed.

6. Challenges

During the implementation of this project, we came across a few challenges. Some of the major are summarized below:

1. **Higher Number of Beneficiaries:** Because the flood affected families in ward no.3 had got no relief, there were far more people expecting to receive relief than we had targeted. Due to the same reason, the distribution had to be halted for a day. After the recommendation of ward chairperson and approval from Sowers Action, the distribution of materials was carried out the next day (19th November 2021).
2. **Supply of items from Kathmandu:** Kailali is 670 km west from Kathmandu. It took us 2 days to reach Kailali with relief materials. The relief materials had to be supplied from Kathmandu due to disruption of markets and roads due to flood.
3. **Difficult Mobility:** Though Tikapur is a municipality, it is one of the rural part of Kailali. Mobility around the area is problematic due to shortage of transportation medium. APF truck had to be used for the delivery of the materials within Kailali to the distribution point.
4. **High Criminal Activity:** Tikapur, Kailali has one of the highest rate of criminal activities such as robbery and murder in Nepal. This is also because of the open border with India. There was a constant threat of mob and robbery to us during the

distribution. It was hard for us to find warehouse to store our relief materials. Thus, for security reasons relief items were stored with APF.

7. Learning

Every project is an opportunity to learn. This initiative was also full of learnings and new ideas. Some of the lessons learned through this project were:

- 1. Disaster creates opportunities for Disaster Risk Reduction:** Disasters draw attention not only to themselves, but also to the hazards they entail, and the potential for future disaster risk reduction. As a result, they may make disaster risk promotion easier. When disasters occur frequently, disaster risk reduction (DRR) can be quite successful. For instance, measures of food and assets security can be promoted.
- 2. Engagement with local authorities is critical:** Coordination with local authorities played a great role in the success of this project. Coordination with local government, APF and local volunteers made it easier for us to implement the project. It was APF that helped us mobilize our relief material to the distribution point within the district. Also, flood always has a long term impact. A close engagement with local authority is pre-requisite for us to advocate for the most vulnerable and for the sustainable policies.
- 3. Engagement with affected population is critical:** As mentioned above, the number of our targeted beneficiaries was increased. This was done after taking a time of a day, to consult with the stakeholders and affected population. This step of our avoided the probable conflict and resulted into quality outcome.

8. Stories

Story -1

Sita Devi Chaudhary is a resident of Tikapur Municipality- 3, Kailali district, Sudhuraschim Province, Nepal. She is one of the victims of the recent flood that occurred on 19th October 2021. According to her, the flood reached her house at 7 am, and in front of her eyes she saw her livestock (cows, goats and chickens) being swept away. In the fear of losing lives, she and her family fled through a broken boat. Though her family members were saved, later she witnessed that her house was severely damaged, making it impossible for her to reside there. There was nothing left in the house except for the clothes they were wearing, all the utensils, clothes; blankets were swept by the violent flood. Currently she is staying in an open shelter along with all the dirt and dust that



were brought by the flood into her courtyard. She has sent her children away to her relative's place because it is dangerous for children to stay in the open with contaminated drinking water source and no safe toilets. After being swept for few meters, one of her cows had died. Due to many dead animals being buried near her house, the whole place has begun to stink. The seeds she had dried on the yard for cultivation along with the food grains stored in the shed, were also swept leaving her household with nothing to survive on. The flood has immensely affected hers and her family's lives.

Story-2

Sharmila Chaudhary is a resident of Batanpur tole, Tikapur Municipality- 3 of Kailali district, Sudurpaschim Province, Nepal. She is also one of the many victims of the flood that occurred in the municipality in 19th- 20th October 2021. The flood has severely damaged her house making it unsafe to reside there anymore. She has sent her children away to her relative's place as she herself is currently living in someone else's house. Except for the clothes that she had put on, the flood swept away everything else. Her house seems to look abandoned as there is nothing left in it. The utensils, official documents of property or marriage, stored food grains and clothes have all been swept away. The shed with livestock she owned is as equivalent to as being non-existent for now. All her neighbors have faced similar loss. Sharmila Chaudhary said, "I will only be able to feed myself when someone gives me something to eat." It has been two days since she has had food properly. Even the little land she had was swept away along with the crops that she had planted. The property area that her

house covered has also been cut almost by half because of the forceful flood.



Story – 3

68 years old **Divu Devi B.K.** is a resident in Tikapur. Her son **Santa Ram B.K** is a farmer. Agriculture has been their family's occupation since ages. He has taken 1 Bigha (1 acre= 1.6 Bigha) land in lease from a neighbor, who currently reside out of Tikapur. He has to pay NPR.30,000 annually to the landlord. Santa Ram B.K. has a family of 5 to look after. His 2 kids are currently in school, his wife works with him in farm, and his mother looks after home.

Normally, they would harvest around 10 quintals rice in a season in previous years, but this year they were expecting a raise of about 5 quintals. This year there was a good amount of rain during monsoon, thus every farmer was expecting a good earning. Santa Ram B.K. was one of them. However, his expectations were flooded by Karnali. Unseasonal rainfall during mid-October not only destroyed his ripe paddy, but also his house and livestock. He had 2 cows and 5 goats, 2 of his goats were pregnant. This flood cost him all his assets.

Divu Devi B.K. as a head of the family was present to receive relief with her son



during our distribution. Divu Devi B.K. while having a conversation with our team said, "All of us were happy this year because of good production. The earning would have let me manage all costs this year. But, what do we do now. We had a small cottage, but we were happy to be working hard. Everything's gone. My son and daughter in law were planning to harvest the paddy on 1st of Kartik 2078 (18th October 2021) Monday, but the rain destroyed all of our plans and dream. How will we pay our children's fee and feed the family now? Where will we stay?"

Divu Devi and her family hadn't received any relief until we reached there. They were in a deep sorrow. It would have been easier for them to educate the kids in a good school, if the produce hadn't been flooded. They were one of the 50 beneficiaries receiving food items, hygiene kits and blankets.

Many farmers' dream was washed away by the flood in October, not only in Kailali but all over Nepal.

9. Project Budget Overview

The utilization of budget made available by the Sowers Action as a contribution to the project reached 99.93%. The total budget of the project was NPR 1,426,600 and the total expenses came out to be NPR. 1,425,625.47. The organization's funds were used wholly for procurement of goods, packing, logistics costs and transportation costs. The detailed breakdown of expenses born during the project implementation is provided in the table below:

Particulars	Quantity per Package	Price per Unit (NPR)	Total Quantity	Sum (NPR)
Food Items				
Rice (25 Kg)	1 Bag	1,600	200 Bags	320,000
Daal	1 Kg	150	200 Kg	30,000
Sunflower Oil	1 Liter	255	200 Liters	51,000
Beaten Rice	2 Kg	140	400 Kg	56,000
Salt	1 Kg	22	200 Kg	4,400
Non-food Items				
Tarpaulins	1 Unit	3362.83	100 Units	379,999.79 (due to VAT Amount)
Blanket	1 Unit	1,504.43	100 Units	170,000.59 (due to VAT Amount)
Steel Water Filter with 1 Candle	1 Unit	1,415.93	100 Units	160,000.09 (due to VAT Amount)
Hygiene				
Soap	2 Units	38	400 Units	15,200
Toothbrush	5 Units	20	1000 Units	20,000
Toothpaste	1 Unit	110	200 Units	22,000
Sanitary Pads	2 Packets	80	400 Units	32,000
Total Direct Cost				1,260,600.47

Transportation (including material delivery on site and travel expenses of staffs from central office) and visibility	159,025
Volunteers	6,000
Total Indirect Cost	165,025
Total	1,425,625.47

- **Financial Summary:**

Total Fund Received: NPR. 1,426,600

Total Expenses: NPR. 1,425,625.47

Surplus Amount: NPR. 974.53

10. WAY FORWARD

After nearly four weeks of flooding and devastation in Tikapur, Kailali, the actual level of damage is still unknown. Tikapur, Shahipur, Batanpur, Simrani, Satti and Bangaun in Kailali are in desperate need of repair. For the time being, the rehabilitation of displaced people is a major priority. As a result, recovery projects focused at assisting Kailali in regaining control of their lives and growing can be undertaken next. To recover from the disaster, a complete focus on various areas can be implemented:

- a. Relocation of the displaced population
- b. Repair of flood-damaged public infrastructure
- c. Economic empowerment of those who have been affected
- d. Measures in Disaster Preparedness

While disasters affect the entire process of living, we must focus on turning adversity into opportunity during the recovery phase. The importance of pro-poor rehabilitation must be emphasized. Multi-stakeholder commitment, volunteer involvement, and sustainability considerations

ANNEX 1. Beneficiaries Name List

ANNEX 2. Letter from Municipality

(Note: Pictures of the distribution will be attached separately in final report)