

Emergency Operation NEPAL EMOP 200768

Title: Emergency Food Assistance for Flood-Affected People in Mid-Western Nepal	
Number of beneficiaries	132,000
Duration of project (starting date – end date)	25 September 2014 – 25 March 2015 (six months)
Gender Marker Code * ¹	2a
WFP food tonnage	2,168

Cost (United States dollars)	
Food and Related Costs	1,471,536
Cash and Vouchers and Related Costs	1,862,066
Capacity Development & Augmentation	-
DSC	533,376
ISC	270,688
Total cost to WFP	4,137,666

¹ See WFP Gender Marker Guide, http://pgm.wfp.org/index.php/Topics:Gender_Marker.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Despite significant progress in many social and human development indicators, Nepal remains one of the poorest and most food insecure countries in Asia. While the hills and mountainous regions register the highest stunting rates (42.3%), the plain area of the south, called Terrai, have the highest levels of wasting (15.8% versus a national average of 11.3%) and anemia (55.1% versus a national average of 46.4% for children and 51.6% versus 35% for women aged 15-49).

Unusual heavy rainfall from 13 to 15 August 2014, triggered severe flash floods and landslides resulting in 256 deaths, and 255 people missing in 42 of the 75 districts across the country, particularly in the Terrai. Among these, Bardiya, Banke, Surkhet and Dang in the Mid-Western Development Region have been the worst affected districts. Several UN agencies and development partners undertook an Initial Rapid Assessment (IRA) in the affected districts.

Following the request from the Government, WFP started an Immediate Response Emergency Operation (IR-EMOP 200763) to provide emergency food rations to meet the immediate food and nutritional needs of 80,000 people in Bardiya, Banke, Surkhet and Dang districts. Relief food assistance has been provided through a one-off food distribution. The food basket includes rice, pulses, vegetable oil and super cereal with rations sufficient to meet individual daily requirements of 2,100 kilocalories for ten days.

The objective of the proposed EMOP is to 'Save Lives and Protect Livelihoods' by ensuring access to food for flood-affected people in Bardiya, Banke, Surkhet and Dang in line with WFP Strategic Objective 1 (SO1). This EMOP contributes to Millennium Development Goal 1 'Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger'.

In line with the IRA data and the Government's request, WFP will provide support in the four most affected districts up to 26,000 families, or 132,000 people, who were displaced or severely impacted by flooding, through one round of General Food Distribution. Subsequently, the most affected 6,600 households will be targeted with unconditional and conditional cash transfers in order to improve their short-term food security, reduce their vulnerability to hunger and help protect and rebuild their livelihoods while increasing resilience to future shocks.

WFP's response, from the assessment through planning and implementation to monitoring and evaluation will actively promote the integration of gender issues at every step. This includes the collection and production of gender disaggregated data and analysis, wherever feasible and appropriate, the active incorporation of gender sensitization at distributions, and the monitoring and evaluation of the impact of WFP's intervention on women and girls.

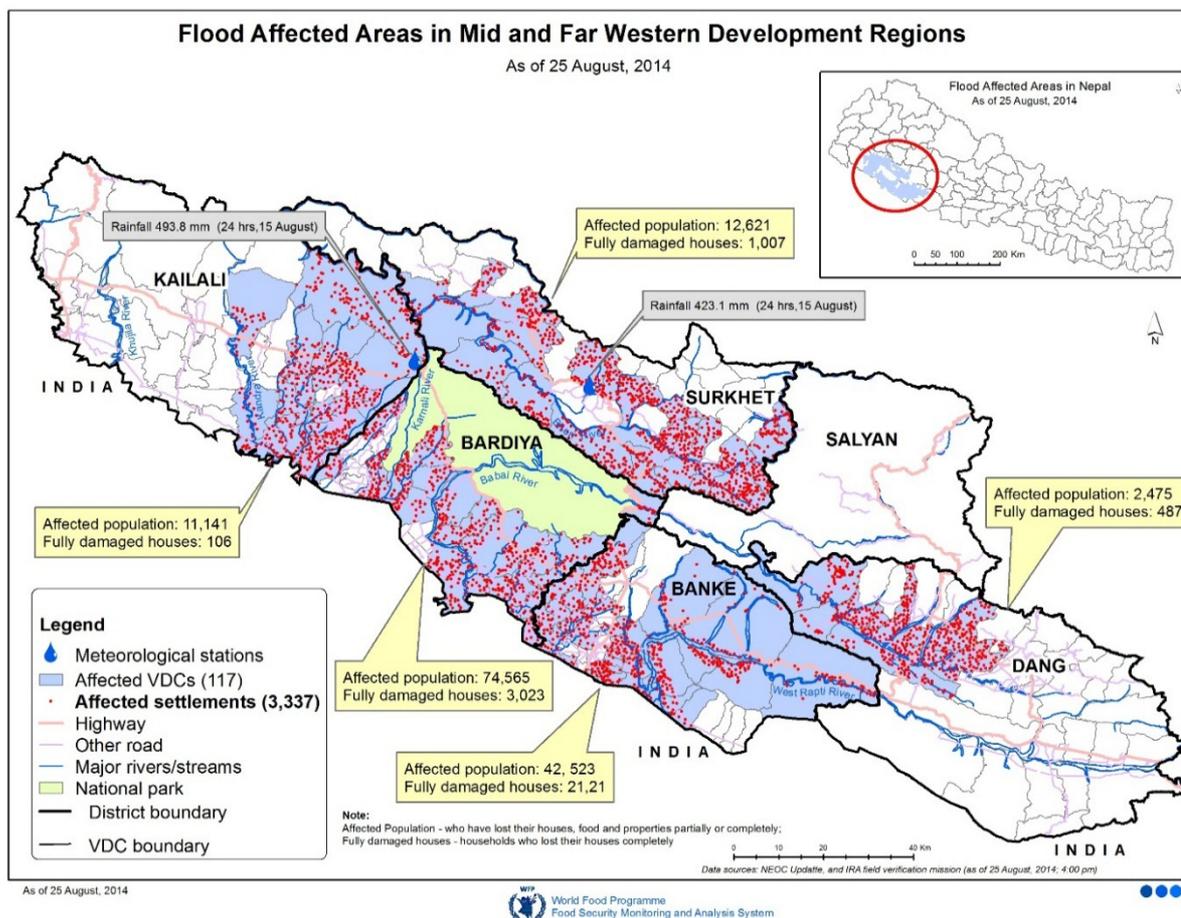
SITUATION ANALYSIS

Context

1. Nepal is amongst the poorest countries in the world and currently ranks 145th out of 187 countries on the Human Development Index². 24 percent of Nepal's population of 28 million lives on less than US\$ 1 per day and 30 percent live below the national poverty line.
2. While there has been substantial progress in health indicators, malnutrition remains very high. About 41 percent of children under 5 are stunted, about 11 percent wasted, and 29 percent underweight (stunting, wasting, and underweight for boys is 41.4%, 12.0% and 29.6% respectively while for girls it is 39.5%, 9.7% and 28.0%). Apart from contending with the longer-term consequences of instable political situation, Nepal is dealing with the effects of increasingly erratic weather patterns which have caused a rise in natural disasters (droughts and floods) over the past decade³.
3. Women and girls are among the most marginalized groups in Nepal, with lower levels of education, limited access to economic land, credit and other economic inputs, less say in decision making and considerably less economic independence. Women often eat after men and young girls eat after their brothers. Similarly, women and girls in Nepal have less access to the resources required to cope with disasters, including information, emergency credit, social capital and wealth. Consequently, their vulnerability tends to be greater than that of men. As many Nepalese men engage in regional migration as part of the household livelihood strategy, the women who remain behind bear the brunt of climatic events, both in terms of responding to the immediate emergency and salvaging valuable household assets and production, for which they are responsible and upon which they and the children must rely for immediate sustenance.
4. Unusual heavy rainfall from 13 to 15 August 2014, triggered severe flash floods and landslides resulting in 256 deaths, 255 people missing and 155 people injured in 42 of the 75 districts across the country. Among these, Bardiya, Banke, Surkhet and Dang in the Mid-Western Development Region have been the worst affected districts. Several UN agencies and development partners undertook an Initial Rapid Assessment (IRA) in the affected districts. In line with the IRA data, the Government has requested WFP to provide support only in the four most affected districts for up to 26,000 families, or 132,000 people, who were displaced or severely impacted by the flooding and landslide (see map below, or the complete IRA report in annex).

² *Human Development Report 2014, United Nations Development Programme, Nepal*

³ Government of Nepal 2011. *National Framework on Local Adaptation Plans for Action*. Government of Nepal, Ministry of Environment, Singhdurbar.



- In addition to food assistance, drinking water, mosquito nets, tarpaulins and other non-food items were identified as outstanding gaps in the relief response⁴. Many flood-affected people have reported the need for food as top priority, despite initial food assistance (ready-to-eat commodities) provided by the Government and various organizations during the first weeks following the disaster. Many flood-affected families stated that they were forced to borrow food or money to purchase food, particularly in areas where relief assistance had not reached or has run out. Some of the families are in serious danger of adopting dangerous coping strategies to fulfil their basic needs, endangering their health or jeopardizing even further their livelihoods.
- Following a request from the Government directly after the disaster, WFP started an Immediate Response Emergency Operation (IR-EMOP 200763) providing emergency food rations to meet the immediate food and nutritional needs of 40,000 people in Bardiya, Banke, Surkhet, Dang and Kailali districts. Within the first week following the disaster, new data became available, indicating that the number of affected people was much higher than initially estimated. Therefore, in a joint decision with the Government, WFP decided to expand the number of beneficiaries reducing the ration size.

The Food Security and Nutrition Situation

- Despite significant progress in many social and human development indicators, Nepal remains one of the poorest and most food insecure countries in Asia. While the hills and mountainous regions register the highest stunting rates (42.3%), the plain area of the south, called Terai, where the floods have hit the most, have the highest levels of wasting (15.8% versus a national average of 11.3%) and anaemia (55.1% versus a

⁴ United Nations Situation Updates, 29 August 2014

national average of 46.4% for children and 51.6% versus 35% for women aged 15-49). Among the Dalit⁵ communities of the Terai, wasting averages 18.7% while anaemia registers 61.3% for the children below five and 57.7% of the women aged 15-49. The average percentage of women aged 15-49 with a Body Mass Index lower than 18.5 is 31.7% in the Terai (versus a national average of 18.2%), and peaks at 44.7% among the Dalit communities living in this area⁶.

8. Preliminary assessments show severe crop damage as a result of heavy rainfall and water-logging during the second and third week of August 2014. A significant amount of land near rivers and streams is covered with sediments, with the majority of households' food stocks destroyed. According to the Regional Agriculture Directorates, in the three most affected districts (Bardiya, Banke and Surkhet) 13,842 ha of paddy and 3,723 ha of maize fields have been damaged by flooding. In addition, the overall soil fertility is expected to decrease due to sand sedimentation. On the other hand, markets, due to the proximity with the Indian border, seem to be functioning or are recovering very fast.
9. Women and girls in Nepal typically experience more secondary, or indirect losses as a result of disasters than do men, including an increased exposure to trauma and violence, as well as increased deterioration in health, well-being, independence and opportunity. This includes the interruption or termination of education opportunities, early marriage, entry into servitude, or at best, merely an increase in responsibilities and workload. These dynamics are present in this emergency, and appropriate mitigation actions must be taken to ensure women and girls will not suffer a 'double disaster,' with indirect impacts that are equally severe and potentially irreversible.
10. In response to the floods, WFP is currently undertaking a food and nutrition assessment together with UNICEF and other partners. Preliminary findings, field observations and information received through the cluster system, suggest that the families impacted by the floods have lost their food stocks stored in their houses. Most of the flood and landslides affected households will therefore not be able to cover their food-related needs until the next harvest in November. In addition, there are households that will not be able to harvest in November and thus, need assistance to sustain their livelihoods until the winter harvest in March. Given the already vulnerable context, it is extremely important to focus on monitoring the cases of moderate and severe acute malnutrition.

POLICIES, CAPACITIES AND ACTIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT(S) AND OTHERS

11. The Government of Nepal mobilized in-country resources to address urgent requirements in the initial days following the disaster and continues to lead the emergency response. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) is coordinating the emergency response at the central level, while key ministries are leading the various clusters. At the district level, the District Disaster Response Committees (DDRC), chaired by Chief Development Officers (CDOs), are responsible for overall coordination with the support of the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS), United Nations agencies, and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). Nepal security branches, including the Nepal Army and the Civil and Armed Police Forces, have provided essential support for search and rescue and relief response activities under the authority of the CDOs.

⁵ Dalit is a designation for a group of people traditionally regarded as untouchable.

⁶ Pandey et al., 2013, Maternal and Child Health in Nepal, Ministry of Health and Population, Kathmandu, Nepal.

12. Given the limited resources and capacity of the Government, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) has additionally requested WFP to support its response with emergency food assistance for the affected people, in particular in the districts of Bardiya, Banke, Surkhet and Dang.
13. A total of 132,000 people are affected by floods in the four districts of Bardiya, Banke, Surkhet and Dang, where IR-EMOP 200763 is covering the food needs of 80,000 people for ten days. The assistance provided is limited and the Government has requested WFP to continue and expand its assistance to 132,000 affected people for an additional 30-60 days. This should allow them to cover their immediate food needs until the onset of the harvest. Among them, the most affected 33,000 people, who will not have anything to harvest or whose properties and livelihoods have been severely affected by the floods, will be involved in livelihoods support activities focused on reconstruction and resilience building until the winter harvest (March, 2015) will be needed.

Policies, Capacities and Actions of Other Major Actors

14. At the request of the Government, the clusters have been activated for food security, logistics, shelter, protection, water and sanitation, education, nutrition and health. As a co-lead of the clusters, WFP participates in the food and logistics clusters meetings (chaired respectively by the Minister of Agriculture and Development and MOHA), and participates in the nutrition cluster as a member. WFP is also actively participating in the cluster meetings at the district level.
15. Following the request from MOHA, WFP has deployed two staff members at the National Emergency Operation Center (NEOC) and the Relief Command Post in Banke district respectively, in order to assist the Government in information management.
16. Prepositioning of assistance materials by the respective clusters (shelter, protection, WASH, education, nutrition) has been carried out and responses have been made accordingly. Each cluster has identified gaps in funding and responses.

Coordination

17. Coordination among United Nations partners and I/NGOs is managed by the Resident Coordinator's Office, with the support of OCHA. Humanitarian Country Team meetings, extended to donors and other partners, occur on a regular basis.

OBJECTIVES OF WFP ASSISTANCE

18. The proposed EMOP is a continuation of IR-EMOP 200763. The overall aim of this operation is to save lives and protect livelihoods, in line with WFP Strategic Objective 1 (SO1). This contributes to Millennium Development Goal 1, "Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger" and is in line with the Zero Hunger Challenge.
19. More specifically, WFP's assistance will be used to:
 - Improve the short-term food security and reduce vulnerability to hunger among flood-affected groups, in particular children and women, by ensuring access to adequate and nutritious food.

- Provide employment opportunities through Food Assistance for Assets⁷ to allow displaced people to return home to protect and rebuild their livelihoods and increase their resilience to future shocks.

BENEFICIARIES AND TARGETING

20. Table 1 below provides an estimated number of targeted beneficiaries disaggregated by location and activity type.

TABLE 1: BENEFICIARIES BY ACTIVITY				
Districts	Total Population (Census 2011)	Unconditional transfer (food) – 30 days	Unconditional transfer (cash) 30 days	Conditional transfer (cash) - 50 days (for 4 months⁸)
Bardiya	426,576	74,460	18,610	18,610
Banke	491,313	42,470	10,620	10,620
Surkhet	350,804	12,600	3,150	3,150
Dang	552,583	2,470	620	620
TOTAL	1,821,276	132,000	33,000	33,000

**under the conditional cash transfer, a total of 6,600 participants⁹, of which 3,300 female, are targeted.*

21. The number of beneficiaries was calculated based on the IRA carried out by a field mission during the third week of August 2014. Staff from WFP, UNICEF, Practical Action, Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS), as well as Secretaries from Village Development Committees (VDCs) and security personnel participated in the field mission. The field mission has further verified the information using data from the NEOC, and the Meteorological Forecasting Division of the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology¹⁰. In Surkhet, field verifications were also undertaken together with WHO, SNV, CARE and GIZ.

22. The livelihoods of poor flood and landslides affected people have been heavily compressed. Many of these families rely on subsistence farming and/or manual labour as their primary source of survival. Flash flooding and water inundation resulted in

⁷ Activities carried out under this objective, i.e. FFA, will actively seek women participation, directly or through women groups, in both the identification of the projects and their implementation. On the basis of the lessons learned from other similar programmes, attention will be given to ensure that the projects selected will have no negative impact on gender or caste-based conflicts. More specifically, people affected by the floods, but unable to participate in the physical work, due to age, disability or health status, will be assisted by transfers conditional to attendance to trainings, or light work, in line with the experience developed by the Country Office and the GoN in the national FFA project called Rural Community Infrastructure Work, and codified in its recently approved guidelines. Further, the FFA activities will try to encourage women participation by providing off-site child care for mothers and complementary work for disabled, elderly and/or pregnant who would volunteer in participating.

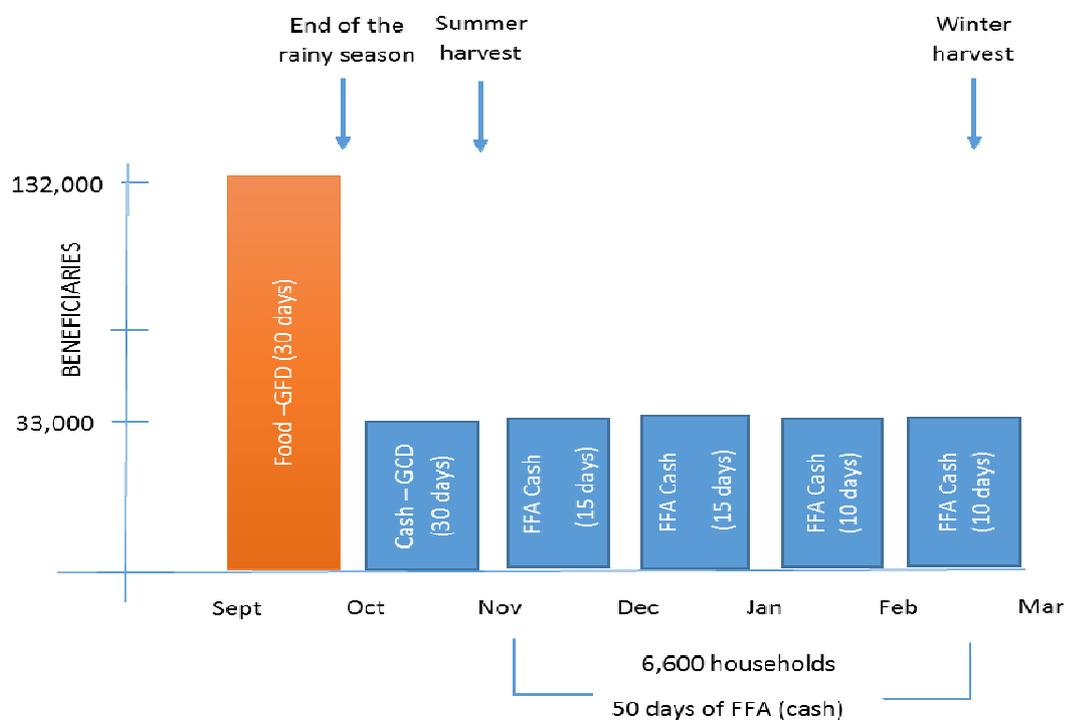
⁸ This would mean 15 days during months 3 and 4 and 10 days in months 5 and 6, when most of the agricultural workers will be busy in the fields.

⁹ The FFA programme will target one member of each household (there are an average of 5 members per household).

¹⁰ The lists of severely and moderately affected households already exist at the district and central level, and have been used by WFP and the other partners to distribute the current relief items (some of the non-food items were in fact only distributed to the severely affected households).

deaths, severe damage to the households' food stocks, deaths of animals and destruction of drinking water systems and agricultural-productive assets (land and irrigation systems), putting the flood-affected families at risk of hunger in both the short term and the medium term.

23. The WFP assistance will cover a total of 23 Village Development Committees (VDC) and one Municipality in Bardiya district; 34 VDCs and one Municipality in Banke district; 26 VDCs and one Municipality in Surkhet district; and 15 VDCs and one municipality in Dang district. A total of 132,000 beneficiaries in ninety-eight VDCs will receive a 30-day food package. This will be followed by a 30-day general cash distribution to the 33,000 beneficiaries (6,600 households) most affected by the disaster, who will not be able to benefit from the November harvest or whose livelihoods and properties have been severely damaged or destroyed. These families will subsequently also be targeted under a conditional 50-day "Food Assistance for Assets (FFA)" programme to carry them through to the winter harvest in March. The figure below illustrates the phases of activities.



24. Among the flood-affected people, there are poor, marginalized landless people formerly working under a traditional system of bonded labour (*Kamaiyas*). Their opportunities to gain income through labour will be further negatively affected by reduced agricultural area they work on within the most affected communities. Furthermore Dalit communities and female-headed households were already classified as extremely vulnerable to hunger even before the floods. The construction of assets will be aligned with the Local Adaptation Plans of Action and the VDC plans¹¹, making sure that the most in need can also benefit from them.

25. The food and cash distributions will be preceded by beneficiary registration and physical verification. In close coordination with the WFP field office and DDRCS, NRCS will carry out the physical verification of the beneficiaries and distribute ration

¹¹ When such plans should not exist, WFP will help the Government to facilitate their development.

cards to each individual household. Protection-related considerations will be looked into at both the planning phase (i.e. targeting, registration, selection of assets to build, etc.) and the implementation phase (distribution, construction of assets, monitoring, etc.). Finally, WFP's response, from assessment through planning and implementation to monitoring and evaluation will actively promote the integration of gender issues at every step, starting with the collection and production of gender disaggregated data and analysis, wherever feasible and appropriate, and continuing through the monitoring and evaluation of the impact of the interventions on women and girls.

NUTRITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS AND RATIONS / VALUE OF CASH / VOUCHER TRANSFERS

26. The food ration will cover the individual recommended nutritional and caloric requirements. The daily ration will include 400 grams of rice, 60 grams of pulses, 30 grams of vegetable oil, 50 grams of super cereal and 7.5 grams of salt.

	General Food Distribution	General Cash Transfer	Food Assistance for Assets
Rice	400		
Pulses	60		
Vegetable Oil	30		
Super Cereal	50		
Salt	7.5		
Cash/voucher (US\$/person/day)		0.28	3.66 ¹²
TOTAL	547.5		
Total kcal/day	2,054		
% kcal from protein ¹³	11.6		
% kcal from fat	22.2		
Number of feeding days per year or per month (as applicable)	30 days per month	30 days per month	50 work days for a total of four months

**The ration is in line with WFP guidelines in terms of energy, protein, fat, and micronutrient content based on the Nutval food basket calculation.*

¹² For an average family of five individuals, 3.66 US\$ per working day will allow them to earn enough money to cover 100 percent of their food needs during the first two months, and about 85 percent of their food needs during the second two months of conditional food assistance.

¹³ A GFD ration should provide a basket of food commodities that covers the 'recommended mean daily per capita nutrient intake' (WHO, 1995). The GFD ration should therefore provide 10 to 12 percent of its Kcal (energy) from protein and at least 17 percent from fat (Food and Nutrition Handbook. Page 65, table 8.1).

TABLE 3: TOTAL FOOD/CASH AND VOUCHER REQUIREMENTS BY ACTIVITY (mt/\$)				
Commodity Type / Cash & voucher	General Food Distribution	General Cash Distribution	Food Assistance for Assets	Total (mt or US\$)
Rice	1,584			1,584
Pulses	237			237
Vegetable Oil	119			119
Super Cereal	198			198
Salt	30			30
Cash/voucher (US\$)		282,125	1,207,528	1,489,653
TOTAL	2,168	282,125	1,207,528	1,489,653 cash transfers and 2,168 mt

27. The choice of five commodities (rice, pulses, vegetable oil, super cereal and salt) has been made in order to meet the immediate food needs of the larger section of the affected population for 30 days as a continuation of the assistance provided under IR-EMOP 200763¹⁴. The food distribution under the IR-EMOP 200763 is expected to be completed by mid-September 2014. As the rainy season continues and the water has not completely receded yet, the 30-day assistance under this EMOP will cover the immediate food needs of the beneficiaries whose houses are completely or partially destroyed and whose food stocks were destroyed or heavily spoiled by the water.
28. The ration meets local preferences and taste, including women's, who given the migration patterns and the intra-household division of labour, will most likely be the one dealing with the cooking. The food is locally available and can be cooked easily. Partners have been distributing cooking utensils to the most affected families. The super cereal is included in the food basket in order to address the under nutrition of children under five and pregnant and lactating women. The salt is included to ensure that the targeted beneficiaries have an adequate level of iodine.
29. The decision to distribute a 30-day ration in one round aims to minimize the time women have to spend on this task, as they are likely to be the ones assigned to collect the food. In order to minimize the walking distance that people have to cover to collect their entitlements, a scattered and capillary net of final distribution points have been developed¹⁵.

¹⁴ During the current distributions, appropriate guidance and sensitization about the use of Super Cereal have been provided to the beneficiaries. This will continue during the proposed new EMOP emphasizing in particular the target groups to avoid sharing practices among the households' members.

¹⁵ In addition, WFP will also monitor school attendance in the affected area to see if the flood and its consequences have had an impact on this indicator, in particular for girls.

30. After the rainy season, which is expected to end around mid-October, an unconditional transfer of cash to an already smaller group of beneficiaries, 33,000 or some 6,600 households, whose properties and livelihoods are completely destroyed, will take place, so that target beneficiaries will be able to purchase food in the local market. The cash transfer – equivalent to the cost of the food basket provided - will ensure access to food for the 33,000 beneficiaries until mid-November.
31. Following these transfers, a 50-day conditional cash transfer will be carried out under “Food Assistance for Assets” activities in order to enable the beneficiaries to rebuild their homes and livelihoods. In line with the Government directives, the value of the cash transfer has been determined based on the average minimum wage rate for unskilled labour of the four districts. This rate will be sufficient to cover food-related needs during the first two months of assistance for a family of five, and can cover about 85 percent of the food needs in the second two months. It is also assumed that during that time, people will be able to find other employment opportunities and/or work on their own land in preparation to the winter harvest.
32. Markets assessment are ongoing, however, it is reasonable to assume from previous data that, after the rainy season, the availability of food commodities in the local market will be more than sufficient, also given the proximity to the Indian border. With the water levels down to pre-flooding levels, the road access to markets are good and improving quickly in the areas where floods and landslides have damaged the infrastructures (roads and bridges).

IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

33. WFP’s response, from the assessment through planning and implementation to monitoring and evaluation will actively promote the integration of gender issues at every step, starting with the collection and production of gender disaggregated data and analysis, wherever feasible and appropriate, the active incorporation of gender sensitization at distributions, and continuing through the monitoring and evaluation of the impact of its intervention on women and girls.
34. The identification process for the registration of beneficiaries has been agreed upon by the DDRRC. The list of flood-affected people is maintained by the VDC Secretary. Based on this, the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) will be issuing household ration cards to the affected communities in order to receive food and non-food items including cash transfers. WFP has existing contracts with Financial Service Providers (FSP) in the region which will be utilized.
35. All the final distribution points, where the food will be handled, will be provided with separate queuing lines by gender; priority queuing systems for elderly, people with disabilities and pregnant women; water and toilets; help/complaints desk visible but not adjacent to the food distribution’s desks; entitlement tables; and wherever possible, a place to shelter from the sun or rain.
36. *Participation:* Participation of women and men beneficiaries in all aspects of the planning have been envisaged in the project implementation. Representation of women and women’s groups in all of the project implementation committees and food distribution mechanisms will be ensured by mentioning such a requirement in the related guidelines and providing a proper orientation to NRCS. Whenever possible, ration cards will be issued in the name of women. Women and elderly and physically challenged people will be given priority during the distribution of food and cash. Risk mitigation for cash distribution will be adhered to as per the risk analysis. WFP staff will regularly monitor to ensure that women, individually or through women groups,

are able to actively participate in all aspects of the project activities, in line with the Corporate Gender Policy and the Protection Policy.

37. *Partners and capacities:* WFP will handle the procurement and delivery of food commodities up to the twenty Extended Delivery Points (EDPs) that have been established in the four districts. In order to expedite the timely delivery of relief food assistance, WFP will procure food commodities from local suppliers whenever possible while ensuring not to disrupt local markets. Subsequently, the NRCS will implement programme activities on behalf of WFP and will be responsible for the secondary transportation and distribution of food to beneficiaries in the affected districts. The NRCS has been chosen as cooperating partner for this EMOP due to their extensive network of volunteers across the districts at the community level in the affected areas and their previous experience in delivering assistance from WFP to flood-affected people in the region. Prior to the commencement of the relief operation, WFP will orient NRCS staff, both at central and field levels. Based on the WFP guidelines and manuals, partners will be oriented on their roles and responsibilities in the prevention of sexual abuse and exploitation against beneficiaries and affected populations. WFP will organize training sections for the implementing partners on these topics and will closely monitor partners' activities and adherence to the guidelines.
38. The Government will continue to play a major role in coordination, targeting, implementation and monitoring. Whenever possible, WFP will aim at developing the capacity of the central and local government personnel in undertaking the needed tasks.
39. *Procurement:* The project will follow the standard WFP procurement procedures (i.e. WFP procures from the most cost-effective market whether international, regional or local), taking into account delivery time.
40. *Logistics:* There are 20 distribution centers identified for the delivery and distribution of commodities in the four districts. The food delivery up to the partner's distribution center will be tracked by WFP using its tracking system (COMPAS). While there has been extensive flooding and subsequent landslides in some of the hill areas, the affected districts are mainly located in the plain areas which are relatively easy to access by surface roads. All food is expected to be delivered by road with a few exceptions that may require transportation by porters or over water.
41. Standby agreements with local transport associations have been activated. Transport facilities and common services for warehousing have been made available.
42. *Transfer modalities:* WFP currently has contracts in place with two Financial Service Providers for cash operations under the Country Programme. The Country Office will use one of these existing partners to transfer cash for the EMOP. As per the current delivery mechanisms, the bank will further contract local agents to distribute the cash in the affected areas. These agents will visit the beneficiaries in the project areas and use a Point of Sale (PoS) machine to transfer cash into the accounts of the beneficiaries based on their individual electronic cards and biometric identification. NRCS, together with the officials from the designated bank, will assist the beneficiaries to register, open bank accounts and receive electronic cards¹⁶. The cash/voucher Plan of Operation will include the risk analysis and contingencies for risks factors linked to cash management.

¹⁶ WFP Nepal has been distributing cash in its operations since 2007, and since 2011 it has been using branchless banking systems as a mode of payment. Since 2013, WFP has successfully started the introduction of branchless banking also in the FFA Government-led programme. Until last year, over 6,000,000 US\$ has been distributed to about 126,000 households who participated in WFP programmes.

43. *Non-food inputs*: Partners will be coordinated through the cluster system and ensure the provision of non-food inputs related to health services, hygiene, nutritional education, water supply, sanitation, shelter, blankets and firewood/fuel in the project areas. The food distribution centers will be (and have been) used as a venue for the distribution of non-food inputs, jointly with the relevant partner organizations.
44. Based on the regular assessments, results from surveys, and fund availability, there might be a revision of the food basket and ration size to address nutrition gaps, if any.
45. *Planning period*: The duration of the operation is six months starting from 25 September 2014 to 25 March 2015.
46. The Country Office is currently implementing a Country Programme 200319. The districts affected by these floods are not the same districts as targeted within the Country Programme. Through the implementation of the Country Programme and previous programmes the Country Office staff has gained experience and capacity in implementing both cash distribution and food assistance for asset.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING

47. The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system will involve as much as possible Government counterparts and will aim at a) tracking the progress in implementation and achieving the objectives of the project; b) ensuring transparency; and c) evaluating the impact and learned lessons for future operations.
48. WFP staff will complete a monitoring questionnaire at the distribution centers in order to track the progress in food delivery and identify gaps for corrective measures. NRCS, at the regional level, will collect information from the various distribution centers located in the four districts on a daily and weekly basis and report accordingly to WFP. NRCS and the selected private bank will submit weekly progress updates and a final report at the end of the operation. Reports will include information on the quantity of food and cash distributed, number of beneficiaries (disaggregated by age, gender and caste), and any other operational issues that may arise.
49. Information relevant to the main output and outcome indicators will be collected through distribution and post-distribution monitoring, the ongoing food security and nutrition assessment and other inter-agency assessments. The data generated will be analysed by the M&E and VAM teams and used for taking corrective measures during the implementation of the project.
50. WFP staff located at the Nepalgunj Area Office, in Banke district, will carry out process monitoring (as part of distribution and post-distribution monitoring) including EDP management and monitoring of the partners' performance with the support of the Country Office.
51. Violence against women and girls (VAWG), whether it manifests in discrimination, subordination, exploitation or any other form of disempowerment, is a significant risk in any emergency operation. WFP will put in place a grievance response facility and other oversight mechanisms to ensure the close monitoring of all activities with the aim of protecting the vulnerable.

HAND-OVER STRATEGY

52. The EMOP is designed to allow affected beneficiaries to receive assistance from WFP within a six-month timeframe, during which it is expected that the beneficiaries will start to return to their homes and rebuild their livelihoods. The need for continued assistance will be assessed during Food Security Assessments that are carried out by WFP on a regular basis. Any additional food assistance, not forecasted at the moment, which may be required, would be proposed through a new project document or a budget revision of this operation.

RISK MANAGEMENT

53. The inflation of food prices is a potential risk. WFP is conducting a risk assessment with mitigation and contingency plans as well as a market analysis in the affected areas. Monitoring will be conducted before, during and after the cash interventions are carried out in the target areas. The risk of cash misuse by the beneficiaries will be mitigated through strong targeting and proper orientation and awareness raising activities and campaigns.
54. The Government intends to finalize the drafting of the new constitution by January 2015. Reactions from opposition parties might happen in the form of demonstrations and strikes. This may result in restrictions in the movement of food and staff.
55. Since the monsoon is still active and the rainy season continues, people already affected might face additional damage from possible new floods. Furthermore, new areas might be affected by additional floods and landslides. If these events take place, WFP will consult with the Government and its partners and, if needed, might propose a revision in the budget of this project.
56. There is a risk related to the politicization of the targeting process. To mitigate this, WFP and partners are currently doing a large field assessment to re-validate the number of people affected. Furthermore, to deal with possible exclusion errors, complain desks have been set up at every distribution point for the current IR-EMOP. This practice has helped mitigate these risks and will be continued during the proposed operation.

Security Risk Management

57. The proposed EMOP will operate under Level I security of the UN. All WFP sub-offices, vehicles and staff are compliant with the Minimum Operating Security Standards
58. All missions travelling to remote areas will carry satellite phones, and medical evacuation arrangements are in place. The UN Department of Safety and Security radio rooms will be the first point of contact for all emergencies.

RECOMMENDATION

59. The Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer is requested to approve the proposed Emergency Operation (Nepal and 200768) under the delegated authority of the Executive Director.

APPROVAL

Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer
Amir Abdulla

.....

Date:

Drafted by: [Marco Cavalcante] Country Office
Cleared by: [Nicole Menage] Country Office on [date]
Reviewed by: [Peter Guest] Regional Bureau
Cleared by: [Kenro Oshidari] Regional Bureau on [date]
Reviewed by: [name] Regional Bureau Support (OMO)

ANNEX I-A

PROJECT COST BREAKDOWN			
	Quantity (mt)	Value (US\$)	Value (US\$)
<i>Food Transfers</i>			
Cereals (Rice)	1,584	633,600	
Pulses	237	190,080	
Oil and fats	119	160,380	
Mixed and blended food	198	158,400	
Others (Salt)	30	3,861	
Total Food Transfers	2,168	1,146,321	
External Transport			-
LTSH			216,810
ODOC Food			108,405
Food and Related Costs ¹⁷			1,471,536
C&V Transfers		1,489,653	
C&V Related costs		372,413	
Cash and Vouchers and Related Costs			1,862,066
Capacity Development & Augmentation			
<i>Direct Operational Costs</i>			3,333,602
Direct support costs (see Annex I-B)			533,376
Total Direct Project Costs			3,866,978
Indirect support costs (7.0 percent) ¹⁸			270,688
TOTAL WFP COSTS			4,137,666

¹⁷ This is a notional food basket for budgeting and approval. The contents may vary.

¹⁸ The indirect support cost rate may be amended by the Board during the project.

ANNEX I-B

DIRECT SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS (US\$)	
WFP Staff and Staff-Related	
Professional staff *	62,735
General service staff **	155,760
Danger pay and local allowances	-
Subtotal	218,495
Recurring and Other	87,000
Capital Equipment	48,477
Security	-
Travel and transportation	133,404
Assessments, Evaluations and Monitoring¹⁹	46,000
TOTAL DIRECT SUPPORT COSTS	533,376

* Costs to be included in this line are under the following cost elements: International Professional Staff (P1 to D2), Local Staff - National Officer, International Consultants, Local Consultants, UNV

** Costs to be included in this line are under the following cost elements: International GS Staff, Local Staff - General Service, Local Staff - Temporary Assist. (SC, SSA, Other), Overtime

¹⁹ Reflects estimated costs when these activities are performed by third parties. If WFP Country Office staff performs these activities, the costs are included in Staff and Staff Related and Travel and Transportation.

Annex II: Summary of Logical Framework of Nepal EMOP 200768 see COMET

ANNEX III MAP (SEE PAGE 4)

ACRONYMS USED IN THE DOCUMENT

CDOs	Chief Development Officers
DDRC	District Disaster Response Committees
EDP	Extended Delivery Point
FFA	Food assistance for Assets
IRA	Initial Rapid Assessment
IR-EMOP	Immediate Response Emergency Operation
MoHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
NRCS	Nepal Red Cross Society
NEOC	National Emergency Operation Center
NGO	Non Government Organization
UNICEF	UN Child Emergency Fund
VDC	Village Development Committee
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organisation

ANNEX IV - [LTSH-matrix](#)

ANNEX V - [Project Budget Plan](#)

ANNEX VI - [Project Statistics](#)