

Nepal: Deadly Flash Floods

September 4, 2026

No. 2

Key figures¹

- 4,521 people in shelters across Rasuwa, Nuwakot and Dhading
- 5,053 people missing
- 1,259 deaths recorded
- 12,038 people rescued

Highlights

- Corus teams are on the ground in Rasuwa and Nuwakot, assessing needs and coordinating with local authorities.
- Distribution of 500 hygiene kits and 1,500 sets of clothing is now underway for people affected by the flooding.
- Corus is procuring two 5,000-liter water tanks to help address urgent water storage and distribution needs identified through the WASH cluster in Nuwakot.



Corus' Nepal team prepares emergency supplies for distribution, including hygiene packs and clothing sets.

Situation Overview

On August 26, 2026, an ice-and-rock avalanche in the upper Bhote Koshi watershed near the China-Nepal border triggered a massive debris flow and flash flood that swept down the Bhote Koshi–Trishuli river system. The disaster caused extensive loss of life and widespread damage to homes, roads, bridges, hydropower facilities and other critical infrastructure. Rasuwa and Nuwakot are the two most severely affected districts. Local education authorities estimate that approximately 600 students remain unaccounted for across the two districts, although verification is ongoing.

Search, rescue and relief operations continue. Some communities remain isolated because roads and bridges have been damaged or washed away. An alternate road route to Rasuwa has opened, but conditions remain rough and slippery, particularly with continued rainfall. Air transport remains important for reaching communities that cannot be accessed by road and delivering relief supplies.

Authorities continue to monitor upstream water accumulations and debris blockages. Further flooding, landslides and debris movement remain possible.

Humanitarian Situation

Nepal's National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) reports that 4,521 affected people are sheltering in 38 centers across Rasuwa, Nuwakot and Dhading. Local authorities report needs for emergency shelter, food, cooking fuel, medicine, sanitation supplies, blankets, solar power equipment and emergency transportation.

Access remains a particular challenge in parts of Rasuwa where roads have been destroyed. Air transport continues to be necessary for delivering relief to communities where road access remains

¹ Source: NDRRMA, Situation Report no. 3, 3 Sept 2026

disrupted. Local authorities are also emphasizing the need to begin planning for longer-term recovery and reconstruction as immediate relief efforts continue.

Corus Response Efforts

Corus has committed an initial \$100,000 to response efforts and is responding through its established presence and local partnerships in Nepal. In Nepal, Corus International operates as Lutheran World Relief (LWR).

Two Corus field teams have been deployed to Rasuwa and Nuwakot to assess conditions, identify priority needs and coordinate with local authorities. Teams reached their destinations on September 2 and are reporting initial findings.

In Nuwakot, the Corus team met with the Assistant Chief District Officer and visited the District Emergency Operations Center to understand relief activities, coordination mechanisms and unmet needs. Following a WASH cluster meeting, the team identified an urgent need for additional water storage and distribution capacity. Corus is procuring two 5,000-liter water tanks with pipes and taps for delivery to an affected community as early as September 5, depending on road access.

Corus has procured 500 hygiene kits and 1,500 sets of clothing in various sizes to provide essential supplies and clean clothing to people affected by the flooding. Distribution is now underway in affected communities.

A Corus team also met with the Chief Executive of NDRRMA to discuss the response and potential support for bringing additional relief supplies into affected areas. Winterized temporary shelters were identified as an emerging need for displaced families facing colder temperatures, rain, snow and high winds.

In the News: Corus Nepal program director speaks with CNN about disaster response

<https://corus.org/story-hub/corus-nepal-program-director-speaks-cnn-about-disaster-response>

Corus in Nepal

Corus organization Lutheran World Relief has operated in Nepal since 2009, partnering with government institutions, local organizations and communities to address health, livelihoods, disaster resilience and climate-related challenges. The organization has collaborated with more than 170 Nepali organizations to implement programs focused on community health, disaster risk reduction, climate adaptation, economic development and data-driven decision-making. Corus also has direct experience responding to disasters in Nepal, including its response following the 2015 earthquake in Nuwakot and Rasuwa — two districts again severely affected by the current disaster.

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