

SIMPLIFIED EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL

Nepal, Western Terai| Flood



Nepal Red Cross Society volunteers and local people mobilized to support the community to build temporary latrines in an evacuation centre. (Photo: NRCS)

sEAP No: sEAP2026NP03	Total Budget 218,397	Readiness: 75,131	Prepositioning: 63,208	Early Action: 80,058
People to be assisted: 9,500 People	sEAP approved:	sEAP timeframe: 2 Years	sEAP lead time: Readiness: 3-5 days Activation: 48hrs	Operational timeframe: 3 months
Prioritized geographical areas: - Barbardiya Municipality, Thakurbaba Municipality, Madhuwan Municipality and Gulariya Municipality along Babai river - Rapti sonari Rural municipality, Duduwa Rural municipality and Narainapur Rural municipality along West Rapti river				

RISK ANALYSIS AND EARLY ACTION SELECTION

Prioritized hazard and its historical impact

Flood is one of the most severe hazards in Nepal in terms of physical and socioeconomic losses. Major perennial rivers such as Koshi, Karnali, and Narayani often cause flooding across multiple districts of the Southern Terai, while rivers originating in the Mahabharat range, including West Rapti and Babai, frequently generate flash floods that disproportionately impact low-lying floodplains. The Terai's vulnerable topography and dependence on agriculture further exacerbate flood impacts.

Historically, floods have caused significant devastation. In 2017, prolonged rainfall from 11–14 August affected 31 districts, impacting an estimated 450,000 people and resulting in 43 deaths. According to the Government of Nepal's National Planning Commission Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) 2017, 41,626 houses were destroyed and 150,510 damaged, over 126,000 hectares of paddy were lost, and livestock—including 812,000 poultry and 9,400 cattle—suffered severe losses. Major flood disasters in 2006, 2008, 2013, 2014, and 2017 repeatedly affected Bardiya, Kailali, and Banke districts, causing widespread infrastructure damage, including roads, bridges, culverts, local markets, and residential areas. Flooding has also occurred outside the monsoon season, such as the October 2022 Babai flood affecting Bardiya district.

Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) household surveys conducted in 2021–2022 show that along the Babai River, 25,247 families live in Barbardiya, Thakurbaba, Madhuwan, and Gulariya municipalities, while 21,032 families reside along the West Rapti River in Rapti Sonari, Duduwa, and Narainapur municipalities.

Flooding in these districts has intensified between 2023 and 2025. In Banke district, particularly Rapti Sonari, Duduwa, and Narainapur, approximately 4,500–5,000 households were affected in 2023, rising to approx. 7,500 households in 2024, with nearly 1,500 displaced, and remaining high at 6,000 households in 2025. Impacts included repeated paddy crop losses, damage to irrigation systems and roads, and riverbank erosion. In Bardiya district, including Rajapur, Geruwa, Barbardiya, Thakurbaba, and Gulariya municipalities, approx. 7,000 households were affected in 2023, rising sharply to around 13,000 households in 2024—including approximately 3,000 displaced households—and 11,000 households affected in 2025. Damage encompassed inundation, extensive crop losses, livestock mortality, and infrastructure damage, alongside urban flooding in low-lying areas.

These trends highlight the increasing severity and frequency of flood impacts in the West Rapti and Babai basins, underlining the continued support of anticipatory action, early warning systems, and community resilience measures.

Explain which risks have been selected for this protocol and why

There is a high possibility of flooding in these river basins where several settlements with dense population are located along these three rivers. So, in case of any major floods in these river basins following impacts are anticipated across the people living in these areas:

- Loss of lives, injuries and missing.
- Displacement of people.
- Damage and destruction to houses.
- Damage to crops and loss of livelihoods.
- Loss of livestock.
- Contamination of drinking water – waterborne disease outbreak.
- Poor hygiene and low-quality living.
- Disruption to critical services – e.g., schools, healthcare, electricity, transport etc.

However, NRCS in consultation with flood prone municipalities and communities has prioritized following three impacts of floods which this simplified Early Action Protocol (sEAP) aims to minimize through some concrete sets of anticipatory interventions.

1. Loss of lives and livelihoods
2. Contamination of drinking water leading to water borne diseases
3. Poor Hygiene and Low-Quality Living (including protection issues) of girls/women of the reproductive age group.

These impacts were prioritized based on previous experience and capacity of NRCS in implementing relevant early actions and response operations for the flood events in the prioritized river basins, as well as considering the feasibility of relevant early actions in the available lead time. Most of the houses in target areas are made of brick and mud mortar. The targeted areas are also in low plain areas. In case of any flooding, the damages of houses may contribute to the loss of lives of the people. In addition, people may have short lead time to escape from the areas to safer place, possibly the high chances of casualties of human and livestock. People living in these areas are more dependent on agriculture, crop farming and animal husbandry, which are in high risks of the impact from flooding. People living in targeted areas are using drinking water from tube wells or natural springs and previous disaster events have evidenced that water contamination due to floods is most common in these areas. Also, there are several instances of the outbreak of water borne diseases due to contamination of drinking water following the aftermath of major flood event and local inundation. Also, the quality of living of those most vulnerable are further compromised, especially the women groups and adolescent girls face protection issues and less hygienic living impacting their reproductive health.

Describe the selected early actions and explain how they will address the risks and lead to the intended outcome

The proposed early actions were selected to address the aforementioned three major flood impacts in targeted areas of selected river basins. The actions were mainly identified in linkage with the risks and possible impacts. The actions were also identified based on the NRCS existing capacity, resources, and previous experiences. Basically, these actions are planned to mitigate the impact of flood in the lives and livelihoods of vulnerable people.

1. Disseminate early warning messages (using hand mike and IEC materials).
2. Provide cash assistance and food support as early action.
3. Evacuate the most vulnerable population and their livestock.
4. Distribute waterproof bags for the storage of important documents.
5. Mobilize water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) volunteers for water treatment and distribution of jerry cans.
6. Distribute dignified hygiene kits to most vulnerable women groups and adolescent girls.

Early actions are aimed at minimizing loss of lives and livelihoods among the most vulnerable. These include dissemination of early warnings and evacuation support, distribution of waterproof bags to safeguard important documents and valuables, provision of water tank with water treatment in evacuation centre for safe drinking water in case of flood-induced contamination, distribution of dignified hygiene kits for women and girls, and the provision of cash and ready-to-eat food to meet immediate household needs during evacuations.

All early action activities will be implemented in close coordination with local communities, local governments, and other actors, and are fully aligned with the municipal Early Action Frameworks (EAFs). NRCS will ensure these interventions adhere to Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) minimum standards (Dignity, Access, Participation, and Safety), targeting the most vulnerable populations. These measures are expected to significantly reduce human casualties, protect livelihoods, and prevent health risks associated with flooding.

The National Society (NS) has extensive capacity in Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA), with skilled human resources available at both headquarters and district chapter levels. Beneficiaries will be pre-identified in coordination with and approved by the respective municipalities. This will enable the rapid and efficient digital transfer of cash assistance directly to beneficiaries' bank accounts immediately upon activation. Moreover, the

NS has prior experience in implementing cash transfer programme in Anticipatory Actions (AA). During the September 2024 activation in the Babai Basin, cash assistance was provided to 774 households. More than 70 per cent of beneficiaries were able to successfully access the funds, and a portion of the cash was utilized for AA. NRCS also will undertake community engagement activities to enhance acceptance of cash assistance, support beneficiary targeting processes, and raise awareness among beneficiaries on the appropriate use of cash for AA.

The early action budget will be requested by NRCS immediately after the activation trigger reached. In case of urgent need of the budget, the NRCS will utilize own funding once activation trigger is met and later ask for the reimbursement. If the fund is not available with NRCS, IFRC country Delegation will manage the fund for the early actions from their existing other projects. IFRC country delegation will ensure swift transfer of the required budget for early actions immediately after the activation trigger is met.

EARLY ACTION INTERVENTION

Overall objective of the intervention	The proposed early action interventions aim to reduce the loss of people's lives, basic household items and livestock of most vulnerable population living in the flood plains through early evacuation in identified evacuation centres with a provisioning of clean and safe drinking water, hygienic living and multi-purpose cash.
Potential geographical high-risk areas that the simplified EAP would target	The sEAP will cover two river basins, namely- Babai and West Rapti and target the early action interventions in three flood prone Terai districts, Banke, Bardiya and Kailali of Western Nepal. The Babai originates from low mountains in the Mahabharat hills and flows in a northwest direction enclosed by these hills on either side, then flows southwards as it passes through the Royal Bardiya National Park in the Terai plains. As the river enters the Terai plains, its dynamics changes from a straight path to numerous ox-bow formations downstream which is dictated by local slope conditions and the sediment fluxes. Barbardiya Municipality, Thakurbaba Municipality, Madhuwan Municipality and Gulariya Municipality of Bardiya district are affected by flooding in Babai River. The West Rapti River originates from the middle mountains of mid-western Nepal and enters the Terai plains via the Siwaliks and drains into the Ghagra River - tributary of Ganges in India, covering a catchment area of 5,200 km². The West Rapti basin usually suffers from flash floods as the catchment response to high intensity and short duration precipitation is swift leading to flooding and water-logging downstream areas of Banke district. The municipalities affected by the flooding in West Rapti are Rapti Sonari Rural municipality, Duduwa Rural municipality, and Narinapur Rural municipality. River hydrology for these rivers is greatly affected by monsoon rains, which last from June to September. From July to September these rivers experience high discharge. Decreased flows in October-November continue till April whilst pre-monsoon rains, snowmelt and thunderstorms increase the discharge in May. The peak monsoon flow of rivers in West Nepal can be a hundred times greater than its lowest flow; For example, the winter discharge rain-fed river such as the West Rapti is 11 m³/sec whilst the peak monsoon discharge is around 8,000 m³/sec. Since 2019, NRCS has been working on forecast-based action/anticipatory action in Babai, Karnali and West Rapti rivers and the district chapters have strong knowledge and capacities to deliver needed assistance and implement action in anticipation of the flood in the target areas. In addition, NRCS has already collected detail household risk data of the flood prone municipalities of these districts which has been now integrated with the government flood impact-based forecasting dashboard, which will inform the overall targeting of the households and

	beneficiaries. Similarly, NRCS has already started the validation of the previous flood exposure data and will update in the government flood impact-based forecasting dashboard. In addition, the existing well-established community-based flood early warning system in these districts provides a unique opportunity for NRCS to deliver the early action much effectively and efficiently in the target areas. The capacity of district chapters for anticipatory action has significantly strengthened through the implementation of the sEAP flood over the past two years. The enhanced knowledge and skills of volunteers will be instrumental in supporting the rollout of sEAP in the coming years. Additionally, municipalities have shown increased interest and support for the protocol in the next cycle. Moreover, implementing the sEAP across three river basins; West Rapti, Babai, and Karnali in three different districts presents multiple administrative and operational challenges for NRCS. Unlike previous flood EAPs, the Karnali River basin is not included in the current sEAP due to its long course, numerous tributaries, and complex flow patterns, which make it difficult to establish reliable early action thresholds. Historical evidence indicates that significant flooding has not occurred even when water levels exceeded the current threshold of 10.8 meters. Additionally, several humanitarian and government actors are already active in the Karnali basin.
Who will be assisted through this operation and what criteria will be used for their selection?	NRCS will implement early action activities targeting for the most at-risk households based on the flood exposure level, vulnerability, and coping capacity. Household Criteria identified for each category are listed below: Flood Hazard Exposure • Vicinity to river and embankments. • Affected population in past flood events. • Houses destroyed in past flood events. • Cropland/livestock affected in past flood events. Vulnerability • Flood frequency (number of times flood occurred/affected the household). • House type/quality (unbaked brick, bamboo etc.,). • Household demography – marginalized, dependent population: children, older people, lactating/pregnant mothers, person with disabilities (PwDs), women headed, chronic and people living with non-communicable diseases (NCDs) etc. • Poverty level (household income level). • Livelihood type (single or multiple income source –diversified livelihoods). Coping Capacity • Engagement in community groups. • Access to flood early warnings. • Access to flood shelters or high grounds. • Access to safe drinking water. • Access to education. • Access to health facilities. • Access to social protection systems. There is already a flood impact-based forecasting (IBF) dashboard developed using the aforementioned risk indicator covering the flood prone municipalities of Babai and West Rapti river. The IBF system is also integrated in the BIPAD system of National Disaster Risk Reduction Authority. The IBF dashboard is able to quantify the risk level at household level based on different indicators on flood exposure,

	vulnerability (physical, social, and economic) and coping capacity (see annex for more details and weightage around risk indicators and IBF dashboard visualisation) Households with high risk and impact score of the flood prone municipalities/wards will be prioritized. However, the list of households will be validated together with community group members ahead of every monsoon season and further reverified in the case of forecasted flood event and their scale and extent of inundation. Furthermore, NRCS has partnered with the private technology company Ruman Associates to utilize the RAHAT application, developed by Ruman, as part of its anticipatory action program. It is a mobile and web-based platform that enables real-time collection, monitoring, and visualization of flood and hazard data. Field teams and volunteers can report river levels, damages, displacement, and household impacts directly from the field, with data automatically consolidated into dashboards accessible to NRCS and municipal authorities. This supports timely early warning dissemination, pre-emptive evacuations, and optimized allocation of resources such as cash, ready-to-eat food, WASH interventions, and temporary protective measures like drainage cleaning and sandbagging embankments. By integrating RAHAT, NRCS strengthens coordination among volunteers, municipalities, and stakeholders, ensuring anticipatory actions are timely, targeted, and effective, thereby minimizing loss of life and protecting livelihoods in flood-prone communities. Moreover, RAHAT project is also supporting NRCS for the update and validation of the flood exposure data in high-risk community of Babai and West Rapti Basin aligning with the IBF system / Bipad portal operating by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA). These data will be utilized for the beneficiary's prioritization of different early action support through the flood sEAP in 2026 and 2027. The new cycle of sEAP will expand coverage to include additional communities within the proposed municipalities along the Babai and West Rapti river basins. In previous years, the sEAP reached 24 communities across 12 municipalities, whereas the upcoming cycle will extend support to 28 communities in 7 municipalities incorporating both new and previously covered areas. The expanded plan will place greater emphasis on strengthening overall readiness, while continuing to engage municipalities and communities that were part of the earlier cycle, as they are already familiar with activation protocols and the implementation of early actions. To support the newly included communities, additional relief materials and resources will be procured, complementing the existing stock maintained in previously covered communities. This approach ensures that both new and existing target areas are prepared and equipped to respond effectively to anticipated flood events. NRCS also mainstreams PGI principles, particularly DAPS, across all anticipatory action and response sectors by ensuring that all interventions are intentionally designed to be inclusive, safe, and responsive to the specific needs of vulnerable populations. Household-level vulnerability assessments and disaggregated data are used to identify PwDs, older persons, pregnant and lactating women, children, and other at-risk groups to enable adapted assistance and targeted support. In alignment with the Government's Shock Responsive Social Protection Guideline, beneficiary selection prioritizes Social Security Allowance (SSA) recipients, particularly elderly persons and individuals with severe and profound disabilities, ensuring that the most vulnerable populations are systematically prioritized. Across sectors, relief distribution, shelter, WASH, and cash interventions are
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	designed to ensure safe and dignified access through disability-friendly and gender-sensitive infrastructure, priority support mechanisms, women-friendly dignity kits, age-appropriate assistance, and accessible service delivery. Community participation is ensured through continuous consultation, engagement of vulnerable groups in decision-making, feedback and referral mechanisms, and mobilization of inclusive volunteer networks to support preparedness and early action activities. Early warning communication is adapted through simple messaging, multiple communication channels, and community-based dissemination to reach populations facing barriers such as illiteracy, language limitations, or mobility constraints. In addition, PGI and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) orientations for staff, volunteers, and local governments, alongside safeguarding measures such as child-friendly spaces, separate sanitation facilities, and protection referral pathways, ensure that all sectoral interventions are operationally PGI-responsive and fully aligned with DAPS principles in practice.												
Trigger(s) statement	The Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM) of Nepal issues three-day flood and weather bulletin on a daily basis during the monsoon season. The flood bulletin includes the river level forecast information indicating the likely trend of river levels and prediction on whether the river will flow above or below the danger level at different river gauge stations. This also includes the river level forecast information of Babai and West Rapti a, Chepang and Kusum station respectively. Depending on the severity of flood flows and associated risk level, respective rivers and their downstream districts are also highlighted with different color – yellow, amber and red. These flood bulletins are produced based on the forecast outcomes from the DHM’s different flood forecasting models. For the real time monitoring of triggers, the existing IBF in BIPAD system shall be utilized, which will fetch the GLOFAS data and put readiness alert in the system. Regarding the DHM Forecast bulletin and other relevant rainfall forecast sources, this will be manually monitored by the NRCS (with support from Climate Centre and DHM) and accordingly the activation trigger will be confirmed.”) Readiness Trigger (3-5 days lead time) The readiness trigger for, Babai and West Rapti will be reached when Global Flood Awareness System (GLOFAS) predicts more than 2-year return period flow in next 3 to 5 days with a probability of 50 per cent or more at Chepang and Kusum station respectively. Alternatively, the readiness trigger for Babai and West Rapti will also be confirmed when the numerical weather prediction (NWP) from DHM/RIMES or any special weather advisories/bulletin from DHM predicts extreme and widespread rainfall for next three days across those basin areas and districts provided that these rivers are already flowing at stage level less than 2m from existing danger level. Activation Trigger (48h lead time) The activation trigger for Babai and West Rapti River will be reached when DHM flood forecast bulletin or regional flood outlook from ICIMOD or any special flood advisories from DHM predicts water levels of Babai and West Rapti to rise to its existing danger levels in Chepang and Kusum station respectively in next 48 hours. <table><tr><th>River Name</th><th>Station Name</th><th>Existing Danger Level (metre)</th><th>Threshold River Level (metre)</th></tr><tr><td>West Rapti</td><td>Kusum</td><td>7.8</td><td>7.8</td></tr><tr><td>Babai</td><td>Chepang</td><td>6.8</td><td>6.8</td></tr></table>	River Name	Station Name	Existing Danger Level (metre)	Threshold River Level (metre)	West Rapti	Kusum	7.8	7.8	Babai	Chepang	6.8	6.8
River Name	Station Name	Existing Danger Level (metre)	Threshold River Level (metre)										
West Rapti	Kusum	7.8	7.8										
Babai	Chepang	6.8	6.8										

	Although, much of the operational readiness, prepositioning and preparation for proposed early action will take place well ahead following the start of monsoon, the confirmation of readiness trigger will make sure all the necessary field preparation for evacuation and relocation of prepositioned support items to local chapters/warehouses etc. are completed. Following the activation trigger with 48h lead time, the NRCS will start the process of dissemination of Early Warning Messages to the downstream communities of respective, Babai and West Rapti river along with informing them regarding the utilization of cash provided in advance of flood. For each household five thousand rupees will be disbursed to the beneficiaries in their social security allowance bank account adhering the governments Disaster Responsive Social protection standard. The activation trigger will also mobilise the volunteers to flood vulnerable communities of Banke and Bardiya to distribute jerry cans, waterproof storage bags, dignified hygiene kit to most vulnerable household/population groups of at-risk areas, including supporting them in storing the movable assets and food grains in safe place. A potential list of most vulnerable households that need to be evacuated will also be identified and validated at this stage. Also, following the activation trigger, temporary safe shelters and livestock shed will also be constructed or managed in the already identified safe areas and evacuation sites. However, the evacuation of the most vulnerable population and their livestock will only be implemented once the rivers surpass danger level (based on the real time river status from DHM) and are in rising trend in respective gauging stations. This means there is a stop mechanism in place especially for the action related to evacuation of population.
Trigger threshold justification	The proposed trigger mechanism makes use of existing flood forecast information provided by the Flood Forecasting Section of DHM - the authoritative designated national entity to provide flood related warnings in Nepal. The triggers are based on the flood flow forecast at Chepang Station of Babai River and Kusum Station of West Rapti River. Existing danger levels set by the DHM have been used as the basis for setting up the thresholds for target river basins. In the past, these three rivers have surpassed their danger levels number of times (see annex 1), however the year 2014, 2017, 2021 and 2022 were particularly significant in terms of humanitarian impact. For the West Rapti river and Babai River, the impact curve indicated when the water level reaches its existing danger level the significant humanitarian impact rises. Hence, the trigger threshold for west Rapti and Babai river will be the existing danger level. Based on the return period analysis of stage and flow data of these three rivers for respective gauging stations (see annex 2), the proposed trigger thresholds come out to be more than 5-year return period events for all three rivers. NRCS will be closely coordinating with the DHM for the flood forecasts, bulletins, and warning advisories. Apart from the regular flood forecast information available in the public domain, a separate line of communication shall be established between NRCS, DHM and NDRRMA to exchange specific flood forecasts of Babai and West Rapti for the monitoring and confirmation of the trigger. Regarding the targeting of households, following the confirmation of readiness trigger, NRCS will coordinate with NDRRMA (IBF dashboard) and respective local authorities to identify and verify the households that are anticipated to have very high impact from the forecasted flood event.
Next steps – For National Societies	NRCS is currently expanding its flood EAP to cover additional river basins and flood-prone districts across Nepal, moving toward nationwide coverage for riverine flood disasters. The goal is to gradually replace the current sEAP with a full-phase Flood

that intend to develop a full EAP (Optional)	EAP by 2027, contingent upon favorable conditions and continued coordination with relevant stakeholders. A key opportunity for the new EAP will be the DHM's plan to provide five-day flood forecasts by 2027, which will enable more precise and timely early actions. The lessons learned from implementing the sEAP will inform and strengthen NRCS's capacity to design and operationalize the full EAP. As part of this process, NRCS plans to conduct comprehensive risk assessments across major river networks in Nepal, which will allow for accurate targeting of vulnerable communities and prioritization of river basins for early action. Furthermore, the ongoing development of the National Anticipatory Action Framework by the NDRRMA will provide additional guidance, ensuring that the full-phase Flood EAP is aligned with national strategies and can be effectively implemented over the next five years.
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PLANNED INTERVENTION

	Shelter, Housing and Settlements	Budget	CHF 59,387	
		No. people targeted	6,500 (5 person per HH x 1,300)	
Indicator:	4,000 people and their livestock are evacuated in safe locations in case of Babai flooding. 2,500 people and their livestock are evacuated in safe locations in case of West Rapti Flooding.		Target:	800 HHs (Babai) 500 HHs (West Rapti)
Readiness activities:		1. Identification of volunteers and community groups and orientation on evacuation process and logistics. 2. Mapping and pre-arrangement of early evacuation centres and safe sites in the targeted municipalities. 3. Regular coordination and collaboration at local level. 4. Simulation of early evacuation process in targeted municipalities. 5. Standby Agreement with Transportation service provider for the necessary evacuation of vulnerable people and their livestock. 6. Develop/Update volunteer mobilization protocol for early evacuation and other early actions.		
Prepositioning activities:		1. Prepositioning of shelter tool kits in the targeted districts and municipalities. 2. Prepositioning of shelter relief items in the targeted districts and municipalities. 3. Prepositioning of waterproof storage bags in targeted districts and municipalities.		
Prioritized Early Actions:		1. Management of existing evacuation sites and construction of temporary shelters and livestock sheds. 2. Distribution of waterproof bags to store important documents by mobilizing volunteers mentioned in Activity 3 3. Volunteer mobilization for Early Evacuation of the vulnerable population, such as PwDs, senior citizens, pregnant and lactating mothers, children and their livestock from the most exposed areas of Babai and West Rapti		

	flood plains. The exposed areas and population that need to be evacuated will be identified through flood exposure data collection in targeted high-risk communities. Data collection will be supported by Rumsan Associates.
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	Multi-purpose Cash	Budget	CHF 40,049	
		No. people targeted	4,800 (5 persons per HH X 960)	
Indicator:	4,800 people reached with multi-purpose cash in advance of a hazard	Target:	560 HHs (Babai) 400 HHs (West Rapti)	
Readiness activities:		1. Conduct coordination meetings with local authorities to finalize prioritization of communities and target beneficiaries. 2. Register eligible households and individuals for the early cash transfer programme. 3. Provide training to NRCS staff and volunteers on anticipatory cash transfer procedures and protocols. 4. Assist beneficiaries in opening bank accounts if they do not already have one, ensuring access to the cash transfer. 5. Finalize beneficiary selection based on pre-agreed criteria, with approval from the respective local government authorities.		
Prepositioning activities:		Nil		
Prioritized Early Actions:		1. Distribution of Cash in Advance of the Flood after activation. 2. Communication with the beneficiaries regarding the disbursement of cash. 3. Volunteer mobilization for the support to the most vulnerable people for the encashment. 4. Post distribution and early action activation monitoring and evaluation.		

	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	Budget	CHF 6,663	
		No. people targeted	9,500 (5 person per HH x 1,900)	
Indicator:	1,200 households would have improved access to drinking water in case of Babai flooding. 700 households would have improved access to drinking water in case of West Rapti Flooding	Target:	1,200 HHs (Babai) 700 HHs (West Rapti)	
Readiness activities:		1. Pre-identification of households that have poor access to drinking water. 2. Orientation to volunteers on the process of water purification and treatment.		
Pre-positioning activities:		1. Prepositioning of jerry cans in targeted districts and municipalities. 2. Prepositioning of water tank.		
Prioritized Early Actions:		1. Mobilization of volunteers for distribution of WASH relief items and water testing and treatment.		

	2. Distribution of jerry cans to the households who will be evacuated in Temporary shelters.
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	Protection, Gender and Inclusion	Budget	CHF 36,062	
		No. people targeted	5,000	
Indicator:	1,500 women and adolescent girls (850 in Babai and 650 in West Rapti) of at-risk households receives dignified kits. 5,000 women and adolescent girls (3,000 in Babai and 2,000 in West Rapti) will receive SGBV and child protection messages.	Target:	3,000 People (Babai) 2,000 People (West Rapti)	
Readiness activities:		1. Training and refresher for staff and volunteers on SGBV and Child Protection awareness and messaging. 2. Training and Refresher for staffs and volunteers on Safeguarding		
Prepositioning activities:		1. Procurement and preposition of dignified hygiene kits.		
Prioritized Early Actions:		1. Distribution of dignified hygiene kits. 2. Mobilize volunteers to orient the recipients on the use of the dignity kits and for distribution. 3. Disseminate awareness messages on SGBV and child protection.		

	Risk Reduction, climate adaptation and Recovery	Budget	CHF 20,816	
		No. people targeted	28,350 (5 persons per HHs x 5,670)	
Indicator:	• 80 per cent of target population receive early warning information on the Anticipated floods. • 28 teams formed and trained for dissemination of early warning messages	Target:	3,420 HHs (Babai) 2,250 HHs (West Rapti)	
Readiness activities:		1. Development and pre-agreement on early warning messages with relevant authorities with clear triggers for these messages. 2. Meetings with municipalities, ward offices and communities for formation of early warning teams/task force in each vulnerable village in targeted areas. 3. Develop/update early warning communication channel/mechanism for each target municipalities with provision of feedback mechanism to collect feedback, complaints and suggestions based on the community preferred and accessible communication medium. 4. Develop/update the municipal Early Action Framework/protocol. 5. Print and publicize the agreed early warning communication channel. 6. Formation and capacity building of early warning teams/task forces of communities. 7. Agreement with cellular companies or relevant preparation for mass short mobile messages services (SMS) systems.		

	8. Coordination with key local and national stakeholders on clear role and responsibilities for early warning dissemination. 9. Drills/simulation Exercises on Early Warning Messaging at communities 10. Disseminate Awareness messages through jingles and IEC, hand mike and other mediums in targeted municipalities.
Prepositioning activities:	1. Procurement of loudspeakers for dissemination of early warning messages.
Prioritized Early Actions:	1. Disseminate early warning messages in at-risk areas of Babai and West Rapti river flood plains, through announcement via multi-hazard sirens, hand-mikes, SMS and home visits. 2. Support DHM to convey the forecast messages through hotline number 1155.

	Community Engagement and Accountability	Budget	CHF 1,818	
		People targeted	42,150	
Indicator:	42,150 people reached with early warning and awareness messages		Target:	42,150
Readiness activities:	1. Develop and establish a feedback mechanism to collect feedback, complaints and suggestions based on the community preferred and accessible communication channel.			
Prepositioning activities:	Nil			
Prioritized Early Actions:	1. Deployment of volunteers to mainstream CEA in all early action activities. 2. Establish help desk at evacuation sites.			

ENABLING APPROACHES

	Secretariat services	Budget	CHF 19,364	
		No. People targeted	N/A	
Indicator:	Funds for the early action intervention are transferred to NRCS to enable the completion of the actions within the lead time.		Target:	Regular
Readiness activities:	1. Support with the annual readiness activities and reporting. 2. Strengthen IFRC-wide coordination to bring technical and operational complementarity and enhance cooperation with external stakeholders.			
Prepositioning activities:	Nil			
Prioritized Early Actions:	1. Process the funds for the early actions. 2. Support NRCS with the implementation of all the early actions in the activated river basins.			

	National Society Strengthening	Budget (CHF)		34,240
		People targeted		24
Indicator:	24 NRCS volunteers and staff are activated and mobilized immediately (within 6 hrs.) after the confirmation of trigger		Target:	24
Readiness activities:		1. Planning of sEAP activities implementation and Orientation to staff and volunteers on sEAP and its implementation. 2. Planning of sEAP activities for second year and refresher orientation for staff and volunteers on EAP and its implementation. 3. Recruitment of NRCS FbF/AA focal person. 4. Recruitment of NRCS DC sEAP focal person. 5. Recruitment of NRCS Finance Officer. 6. Recruitment of NRCS DC finance focal.		
Prepositioning activities:		Nil		
Prioritized Early Actions:		1. Emergency coordination meeting with staff and volunteers on trigger activation. 2. Emergency meeting with local stakeholders in targeted municipalities upon confirmation of trigger. 3. Activation of EoC and 24/7 risk monitoring and coordination with DHM and NDRRMA. 4. Volunteer mobilization for EA activities in targeted municipalities of Babai and West Rapti flood plains. 5. Lesson Learnt Workshop.		

CONDITIONS TO DELIVER THE EARLY ACTION

Experience and/or capacity to implement the early actions.	NRCS 9th national society development plan has prioritized anticipatory action as a strategic area, emphasizing its role in strengthening disaster preparedness, enhancing community resilience, and systematically reducing the impacts of hazards. Similarly, the NRCS Disaster Management Policy and Response Manual has incorporated anticipatory action, ensuring that early actions are mainstreamed into the disaster risk management system of NRCS and guiding structured, timely, and effective anticipatory interventions. The Government of Nepal recognizes the NRCS as an auxiliary agency in humanitarian services. As one of the largest humanitarian organizations in Nepal, NRCS boasts an extensive nationwide network comprising 7 provincial committees, 77 district chapters, and 1,564 sub-chapters also proposing the 753 municipal chapters in the recently endorsed NRCS new statutory. NRCS emphasizes robust coordination practices and collaborations, particularly with local governments for the humanitarian services. The NRCS 8th development plan, national society development plan, different policies, strategies, guidelines, and procedures are the foundations to increase efficiency and effectiveness throughout its services. Additionally, NRCS has warehouses strategically located in each of the seven provinces to facilitate immediate response efforts. The pool of trained human resource is adding value to the services that organization has been conferring. The organization ensures the inclusive service delivery and serving the needs of
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	vulnerable, marginalized, and excluded communities living in fragile settings. NRCS is committed to uphold a zero-tolerance policy towards all forms of exploitation, abuse, and harassment and to institutionalize and mainstream protection gender and inclusion /community engagement and accountability in all NRCS programmes and services. Moreover, NRCS has a wider experience of responding to various emergencies and major humanitarian crises in Nepal, including the 2015 earthquake, 2017 flood, and the 2020 and 2021 COVID-19 pandemics, building expertise to the areas of emergency shelter, health, WASH and PGI/CEA. NRCS continued its effort to make communities resilient to disasters and crises in the face of climate change by emergencies response and anticipatory actions. The organization has also accumulated valuable experience in Forecast-Based Action (FbA) and Shock-Responsive Social Protection (SRSP), particularly in addressing floods and cold waves in 2020 and proactively acting in anticipation against the Karnali 2021 flood, along the Karnali and Babai river basins, in Kailali and Bardiya districts. NRCS in collaboration with the Municipalities endorsed and implemented the Early Action Framework (EAF) in West Rapti and Babai river basin. Various simulation exercises on Anticipatory action were conducted to test the framework and hence refined accordingly. With the experience of Implementing the Flood sEAP in three major river basins in Western Nepal, NRCS has experienced the two different activations of flood anticipatory action in Babai and West Rapti river Basin in 2024. The major early actions incorporate the cash transfer to 774 HHs in Babai river basin along with wider message dissemination, early evacuation and other major early actions interventions. NRCS has already developed the engagement strategy of Anticipatory actions, operational plan of AA for 2025 to 2029 and assessed the readiness index internally. NRCS is also in progress to develop the internal AA framework completing this year ensuring the alignment with National AA framework. NRCS has a robust working team of AA and EW4all comprising the relevant staff of NRCS and partner national societies. Similarly forecast monitoring team has been formed in different districts and sEAP advisory team is also working at headquarter level which will support for both heatwave and flood sEAP. NRCS has already established emergency funds for disaster response and national HQs will ensure that required funds will be released once readiness stage is met which will be reimbursed through DREF once it is transferred from IFRC.
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners, Governmental / other agencies consulted/involved on this simplified EAP	NRCS with the support from IFRC, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, RCRC Climate Centre jointly developed this simplified early action protocol. During the drafting of this protocol, NRCS had several consultations with NDRRMA and DHM. Likewise, local governments and district governmental authorities were also engaged in the prioritization of impacts and identification of feasible early actions. All these stakeholders will be involved in the implementation of this sEAP. NRCS have been actively contributing to the annual monsoon preparedness and response planning processes, both at federal and local level. In fact, NRCS (through DRC led ECHO programme on AA) have supported the development of standard operating procedures (SOPs) for forecast-based action and response at district and local level. At the federal level, NRCS and NDRRMA have already been working in the integration of AA within the national monsoon preparedness planning processes. Additionally, NDRRMA has already endorsed the National AA framework from the DRRM executive committee enabling the AA has the major

	approach of Disaster Risk management and ensuring the embed of AA in DRRM system of Nepal. In addition, there is also similar ongoing anticipatory action initiative from World Food Programme (WFP) and Save the Children Nepal in the target river basins, and NRCS (district and local chapters) have been supporting them in the implementation. The activation trigger proposed for this sEAP aligns well with the flood trigger being used by these agencies for their AA programmes, as they have also been using the DHM flood forecast bulletins for their activation. NRCS (through its district and local chapters) will jointly coordinate with these agencies for coordinated actions, avoiding any duplication of efforts and beneficiaries, and support in the wider scale of AA support in these flood prone areas. NRCS will also coordinate with the larger AA initiative from UN CERF and push for the necessary harmonization of trigger and action to the extent possible across the target river basins.
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BUDGET



Early Action Protocol Summary

EAPcode - Nepal Red Cross Society Flood

Operating Budget

	Readiness	Pre-Pos Stock	Early Action	TOTAL
Planned Operations	42,087	60,930	61,777	164,794
Shelter and Basic Household Items	11,732	23,849	23,806	59,387
Livelihoods	0	0	0	0
Multi-purpose Cash	7,147	0	32,901	40,049
Health	0	0	0	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	1,595	3,195	1,874	6,663
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	5,126	29,900	1,037	36,062
Education	0	0	0	0
Migration	0	0	0	0
Risk Red., Climate Adapt. and Recovery	14,893	3,987	1,936	20,816
Community Engagement and Accountabi	1,595	0	223	1,818
Environmental Sustainability	0	0	0	0
Enabling Approaches	33,043	2,278	18,282	53,603
Coordination and Partnerships	0	0	0	0
Secretariat Services	5,695	2,278	11,390	19,364
National Society Strengthening	27,348	0	6,891	34,240
TOTAL BUDGET	75,131	63,208	80,058	218,397

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)

Contact information

For further information, specifically related to this sEAP please contact:

At the Nepal Red Cross Society

- Pramod Adhikari, AA coordinator; phone: 9843318227; email: Pramod.adhikari@nrccs.org
- Sagar Shrestha, Director of DM Department; phone: 9803202129; email: sagar.shrestha@nrccs.org

At the IFRC Nepal Country Delegation

- Shrinkhala Thapa, Programme Coordinator; email: shrinkhala.thapa@ifrc.org
- Prajwal Acharya, DRM Programme Manager; phone: 9851215946; email: Prajwal.acharya@ifrc.org

At the IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office in Kuala Lumpur

- Sarah Mohammad Iqbal, DREF Coordinator; email: sarah.iqbal@ifrc.org
- Saara Ilmonen, Operations Coordinator; email: opscoord.southasia@ifrc.org

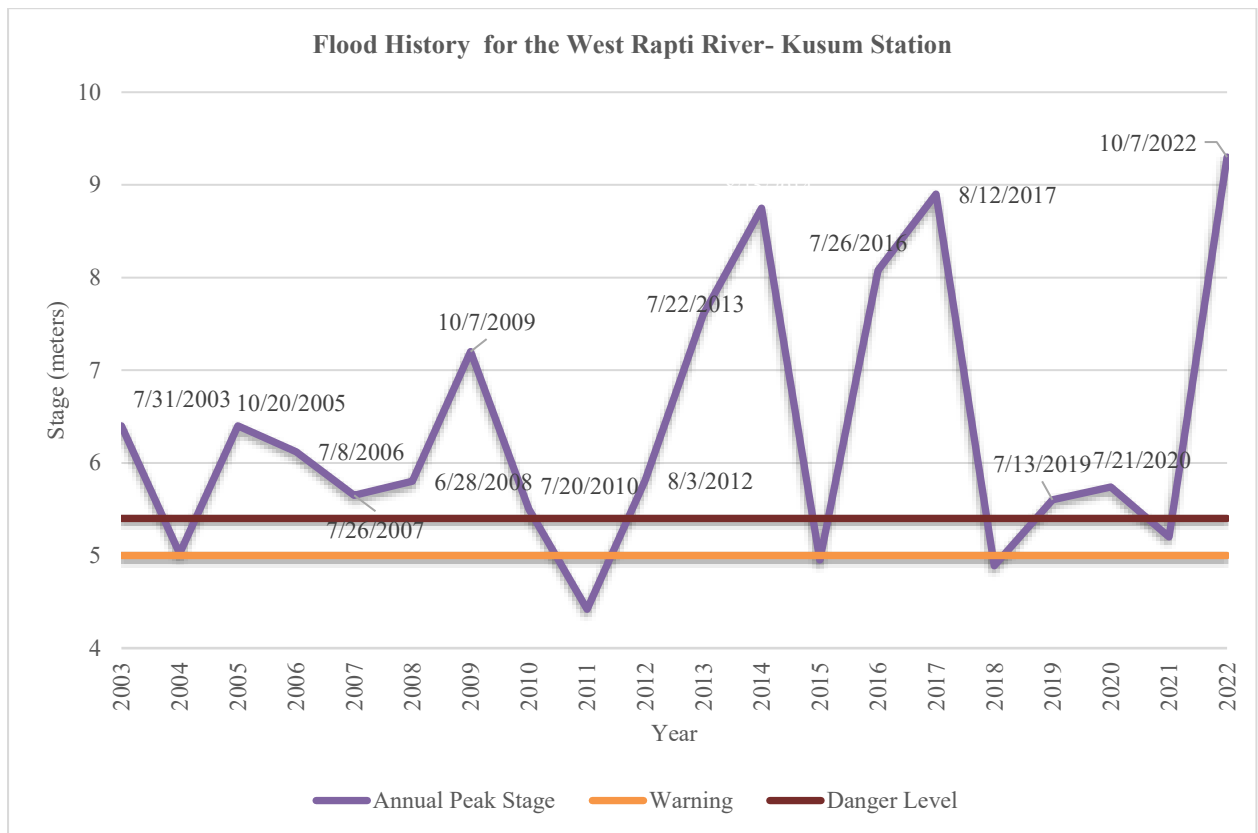
At IFRC Geneva

- Malika Noisette, DREF Senior Officer AA; email: malika.noisette@ifrc.org

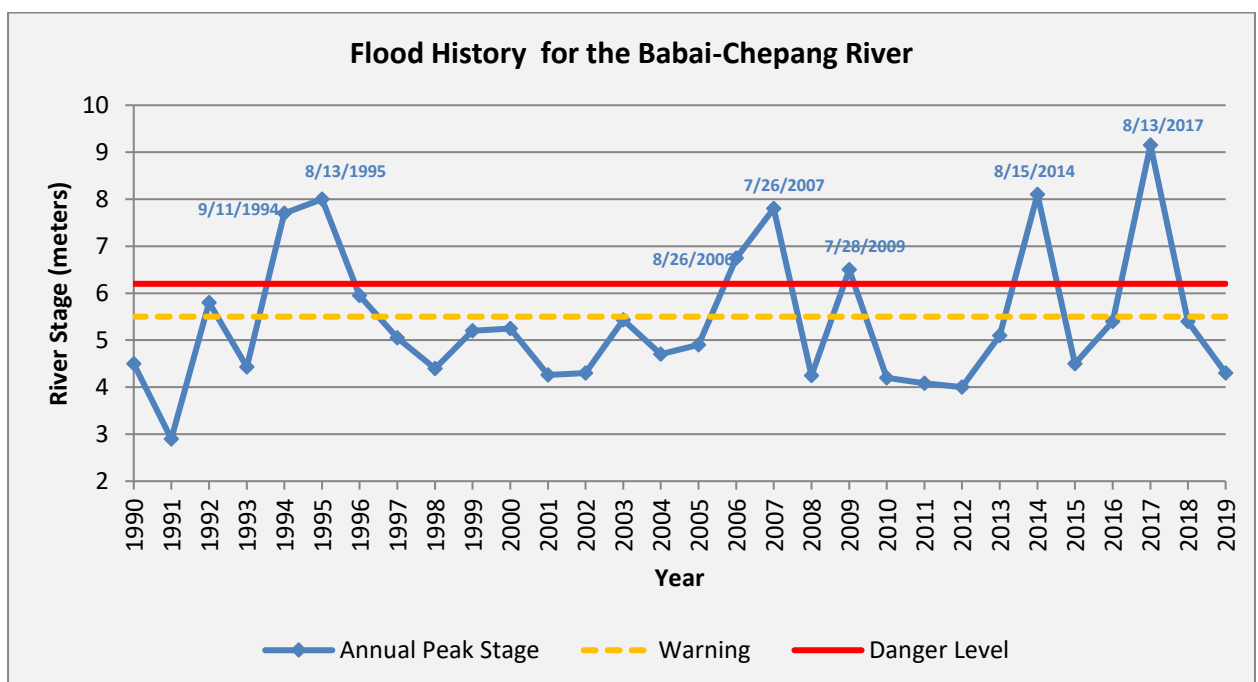
- Annexes

Annex 1: Flood History in Babai and West Rapti River

(a) Flood History of West Rapti River at Kusum Station

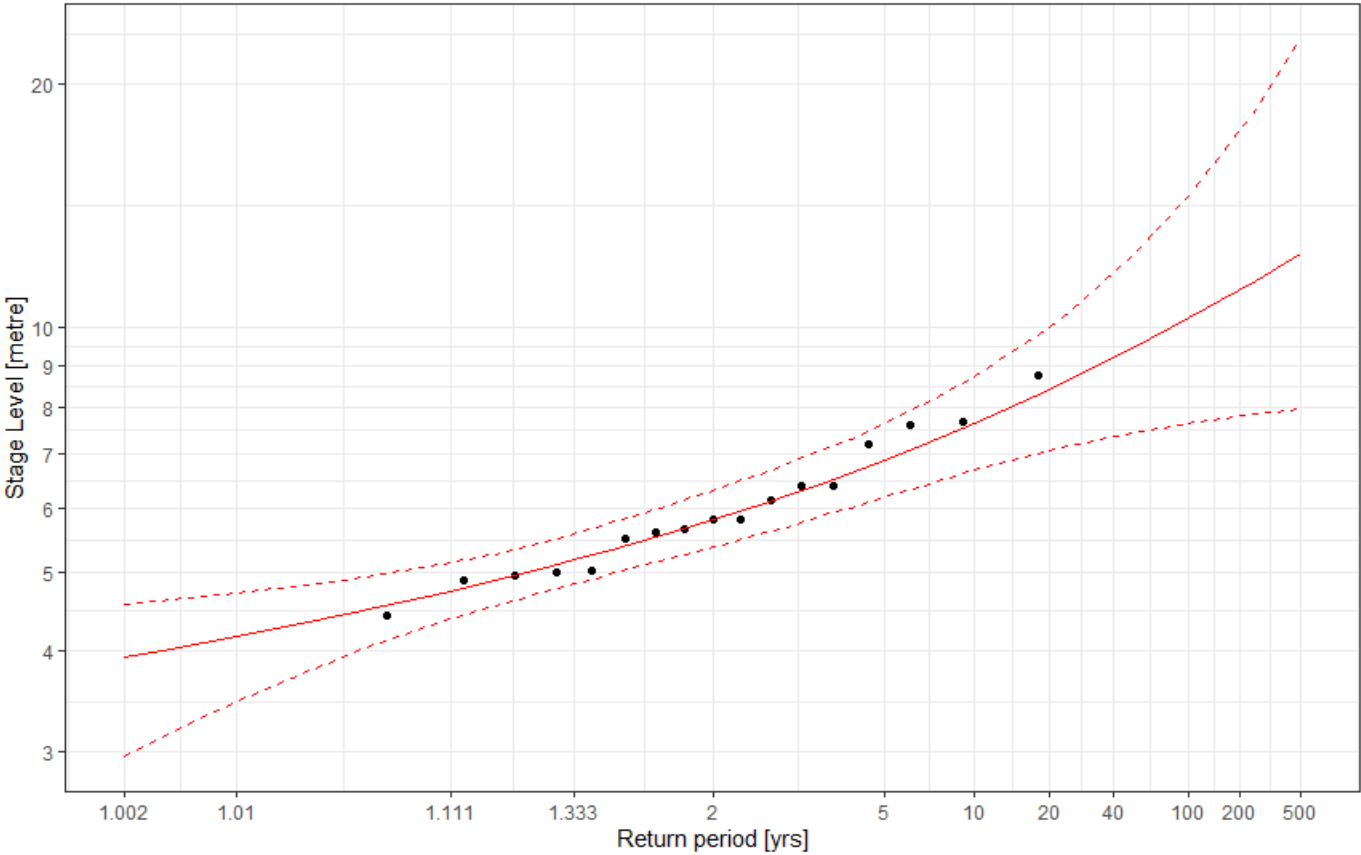


(b) Flood History of Babai River at Chepang Station

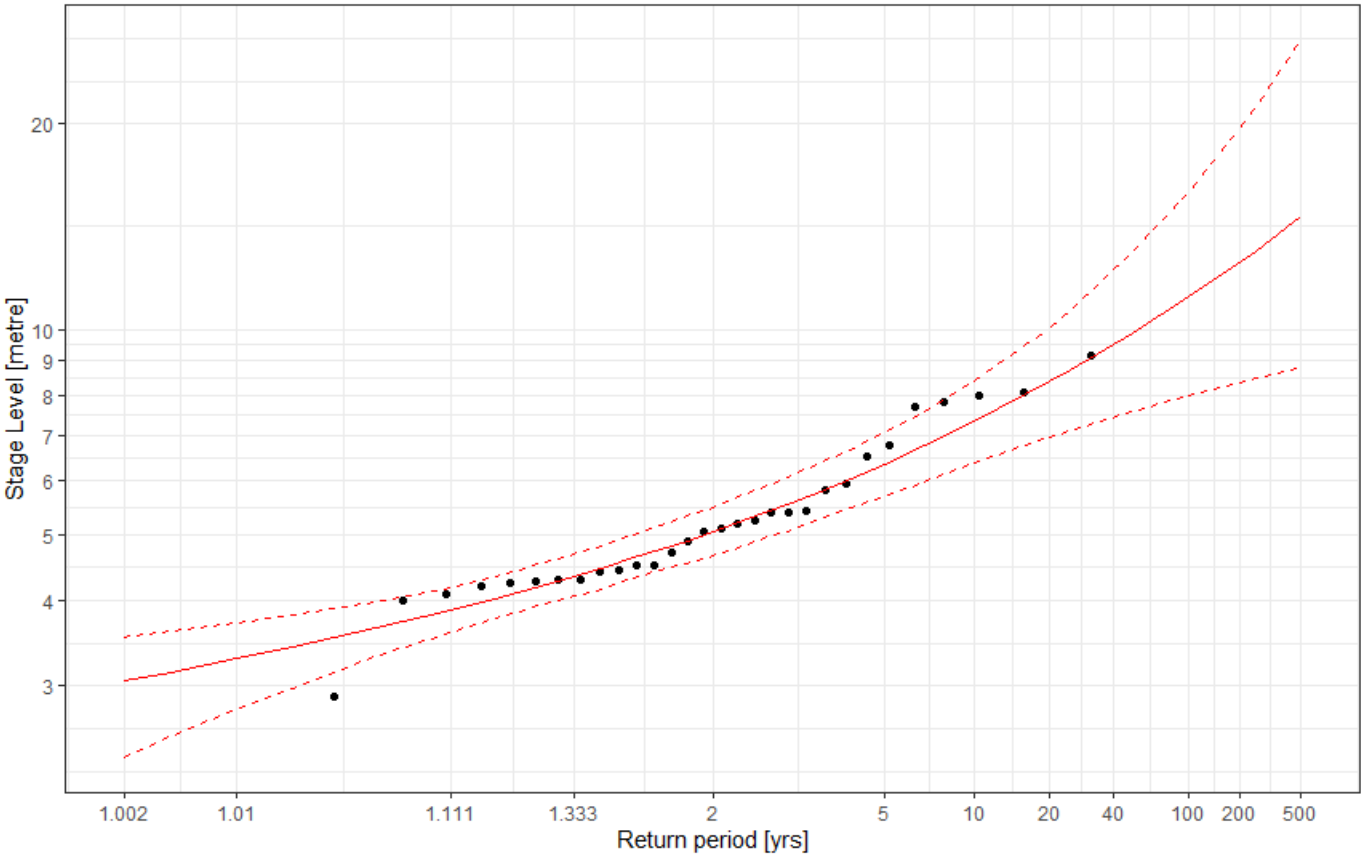


Annex 2 Return Period Analysis of Babai and West Rapti River

(a) West Rapti (Kusum Station) - Based on Stage Data from 2003 - 2019.

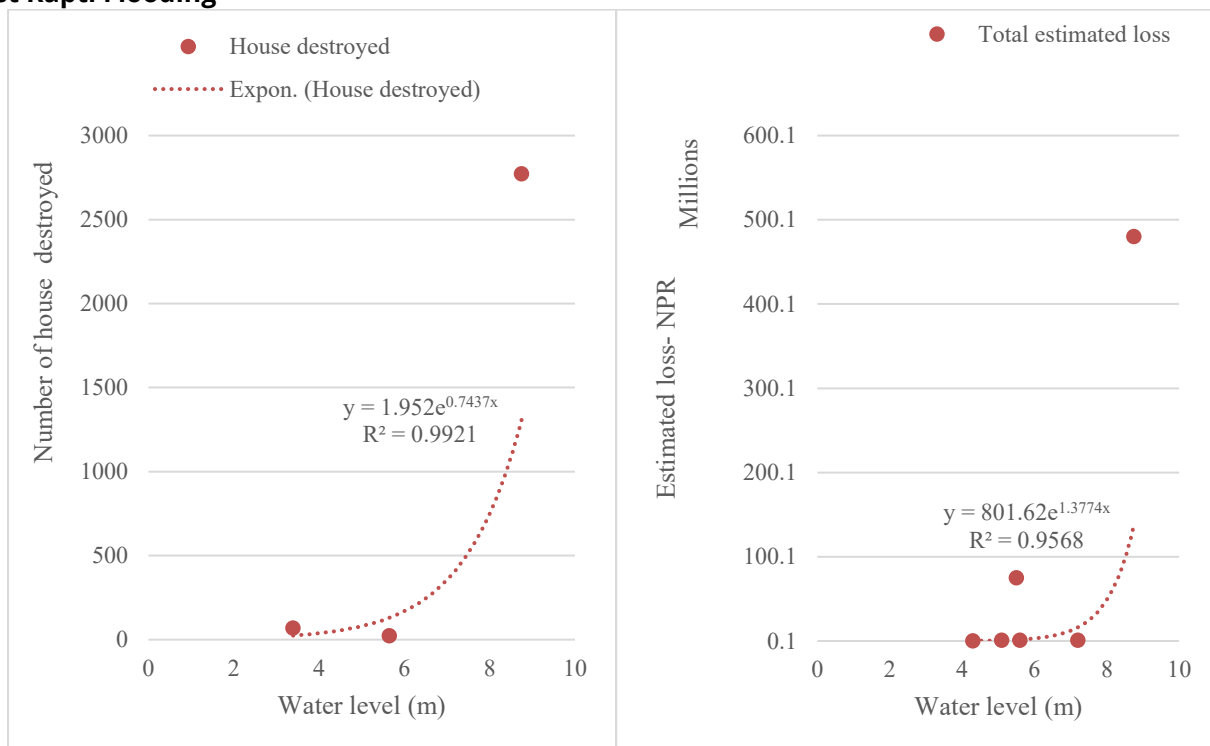


(b) Babai Chepang - based on stage data 1990-2019



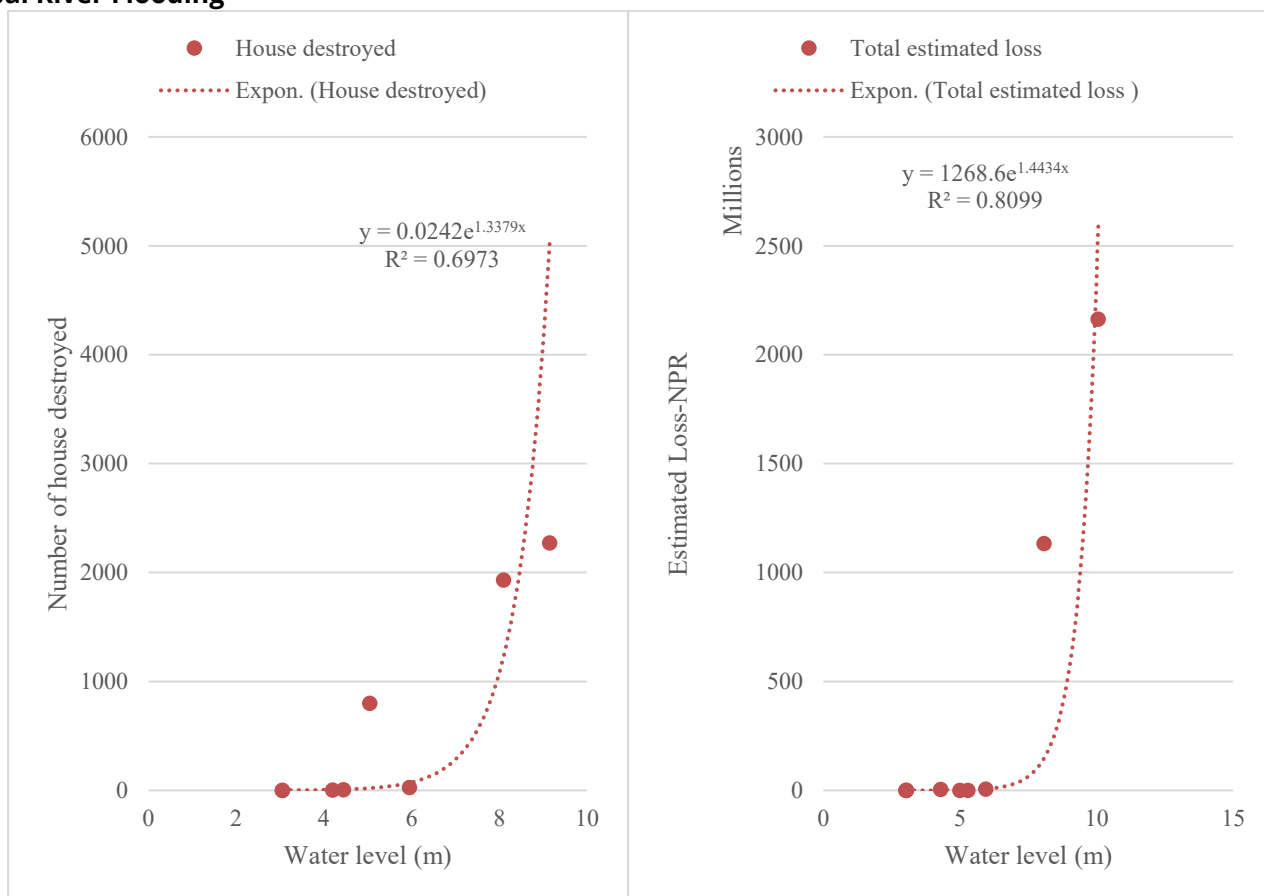
Annex 3: Impact Curves (Correlation of Flood Level and Humanitarian Impact)

(a) West Rapti Flooding



Data Source - Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM) and Bipad Portal

(b) Babai River Flooding



Data Source - Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM) and Bipad Port

Annex 4: Risk Indicators used in Flood IBF Dashboard and Criteria for Beneficiary Targeting

(a) Flood Hazard Exposure Indicators

Criteria	Class/Components	Weightage	Score
Vicinity to rivers	< 100m	20%	1
	100–500-meters		0.5
	More than 500m		0
Loss of family members in past flood events	Yes	30 %	1 (All three have occurred)
	No		
House damage in past flood events	Yes		0.5 (Any of the three have occurred)
	No		
Livelihood affected in past flood events	Yes		0 (None of the any impacts reported in past)
	No		
Flood Inundation Map (Meteor – 5 Year Return Period Event)	<1 m	50%	0
	1-2 m		0.5
	>2 m		1

(b) Vulnerability Indicators

Indicators	Sub-Indicators	Class/Components	Weightage	Score
Social	Number of Dependent Population (Children, Elderly, Disabled, Pregnant/Lactating)	0	15%	0
		1 to 2		0.5
		More than 2		1
	Female-headed household	Yes	5%	1
		No		0
Economic	Income Source	Multiple occupations	10%	0
		Single occupation		1
	Annual Income	More than 100,000	15%	0
		40,000-100,000		0.5
		Less than 40,000		1

Physical	House Type	Wall made up of local stones and rural structure (mud, bamboo, brick, etc.) and lightweight roof made up of grass/hay, mud, wood, plastic, etc.	30%	1
		Wall made up of bricks, block, prefab, metal, tin, etc. And a lightweight roof made up of grass/hay, mud, wood, plastic, etc./ Wall made up of local stones, rural structure (mud, bamboo, brick, etc.) and roof made up of heavy materials like tiles, slate, tin, etc.		0.5
		Retrofitted, well-constructed walls and wide roofs made up of bricks, stones, and cement.		0
	Flood impact in house/land in the past 30 years (flood frequency)	Less than 2 times	25%	0
		3 to 5 times		0.5
		More than 5 times		1

(c) Coping Capacity Indicators

Indicators	Sub-Indicators	Class/Components	Weightage	Score
Lack of Coping Capacity	Access to Safe Drinking Water during flood times	Yes	10%	0
		No		1
	Early warning information access	Yes	30%	0
		No		1
	Involvement of family member in community group	Yes	10%	0
		No		1
	Access to financial services	Yes	10%	0
		No		1
	Education level	Illiterate	10%	1
		Literate		0.5
		Formal education		0
	Availability of Social Security	Yes	10%	0
		No		1
	Distance to safe shelter	No access	20%	1
		Less than 30 minutes		0
		More than 30 minutes		0.5

Annex 6: BIPAD – Flood IBF Dashboard (Household Level Risk Visualisation for Babai Flood Plains)

