

कर्णाली एकीकृत ग्रामीण विकास तथा अनुसन्धान केन्द्र

KARNALI INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT & RESEARCH CENTER

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APPEAL

FOR REVIVING LIVES AND LIVELIHOODS OF MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES

The week-long incessant rainfall in the districts of Karnali province of Nepal led to devastating landslides and floods claiming the lives of more than 36 people including 5 children, 23 injured and 20 missing. In Karnali Province, altogether 14500 populations from 2850 HHs have been affected which includes 720 HHs in Kalikot, 1482 HHs in Jumla, and 560 HHs in Mugu. Along with a wake of deaths, morbidity, and economic loss, a major substantial impact is observed in agriculture as landslides wash-down crops which will reduce crop yields and damage physical infrastructure including roads, and water supply systems. Karnali Highway has been damaged and more than 90 landslides have descended on the Surkhet-Jumla section of the Karnali highway. As a result of landslides, the water level increased and flash floods severely affected people in the lowlands.

The Government of Nepal had declared a "Disaster Crisis Zone" for the local level units i.e Tilagufa Municipality, Palanta Rural Municipality, Khadachakra Municipality of Kalikot, Sinja Rural Municipality, Hima Rural Municipality, and Kankasundari Rural Municipality of Jumla and Soru Rural Municipality, Chhayararanath Municipality, Khatyad Rural Municipality of Mugu in Karnali Province. Records of Karnali provincial police show that at least 124 people lost their lives while properties worth around Rs 842.7 million were destroyed in climate-related disasters in various districts of the province in the past three years.

Nepal bears some of the worst consequences of the climate crisis globally. The nation has consistently ranked in the Global Climate Risk Index as among the top five most vulnerable countries in the world. The people of Nepal and the vulnerable mountain communities are the latest victims of a global crisis and are at the forefront of climate impacts.

Karnali's high degree of remoteness and geography has made it more vulnerable to climate-induced disasters. Floods and landslides take lives and ravage properties in the province every year. Karnali needs a number of years to rebuild, and recover its economy and to cover up the loss and damages done by floods and heavy rains and the already teetering economy. These impacts are undeniably a symptom of an accelerating climate crisis and also the result of unmanaged and unsustainable development interventions and planning.

We urge and demand the government to work with the vulnerable communities and respond to the specific needs of particularly vulnerable groups, rebuild livelihoods for implementing early recovery activities, rehabilitate destroyed and damaged houses, and focus on sustainable development interventions in the coming days.

We also urge the global community for technical and financial support for addressing loss and damage (L&D), and reducing risks from extreme events and disasters such as floods and landslides which we are facing and also demand to address the needs of vulnerable mountain countries and to strengthen mountain economies including a focus on technology transfer and capacity building.

On behalf of civil society, we sincerely appeal for the international communities including the private sector to join hands, build partnerships, and collaborate, for humanitarian support, rehabilitation, long-term resettlement, and recovery.

We strongly request for the mobilization of volunteers, urge for financial resources from various stakeholders, including the private sector, and advocate for climate-resilient development for saving lives, protecting rights, and securing a better and sustainable future.

Best Regards



KIRDARC
...together for social justice

Gobinda Bahadur Shahi

Executive Director

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