



Field Assessment Report: 2026 Flash Flood Response

Bageshwori Secondary School, Baireni (Galchhi RM-6, Dhading) & Trishuli Bazar, Nuwakot

7 September 2026

Summary

Following the catastrophic flash flood of August 26, 2026, which struck communities along the Bhotekoshi–Trishuli river corridor near the Nepal–Tibet border, UniCoN (6 members) conducted a immediate field visit from 2 – 5 Sept.)to assess the impact on affected communities and deliver initial support. The team first visited Shree Bageshwori Secondary School in Baireni, Dhading, where it distributed emergency school supplies to 400 children. The team then travelled to Trishuli Bazar, Nuwakot, one of the worst-affected market towns, to assess the situation directly before considering further relief.



Pictures: Shree Bageshwori S.S. Dhading

This report finds that the two sites are now at different stages of recovery. Bageshwori School is recovering quickly, supported by strong community, government, and volunteer mobilization. Its remaining needs are less material and more emotional, including psychosocial support for traumatized children and families, and clarity on whether the school will be relocated.

According to local officials and survivors, 71 people had died, more than 100 were still missing, and around 500 houses had been swept away or dismantled in the Trishuli Bazar area. These figures had not yet been independently verified at the time of the visit. The town remains in the emergency phase, with more than 900 people displaced in three hillside holding centers, which are currently being used as temporary shelters. Although staple food aid has been generously supplied, a nutritional gap remains for children, pregnant and nursing mothers, and the elderly.

The use of these schools as temporary shelters has also disrupted education. More than 600 students are currently out of school, and it remains unclear when classes can resume. The situation on the ground remains extremely serious, with many families still displaced and in urgent need of support.



1. Background

On August 26, 2026, a sudden and destructive flash flood struck along the Bhotekoshi/Trishuli river system near the Nepal–Tibet border, causing widespread devastation across Rasuwa, Nuwakot, and Dhading districts.

Due to the catastrophic and unprecedented scale of the flood, exact and credible details of loss and damage are continuously being updated. The rescue mission in flood affected areas is ongoing. Due to large accumulation of mud, debris, and destruction of roads and bridges, the rescue and relief operation is challenging. There have been reports (till 6 Sept. 2026, 9:00pm) of 1,341 losses of human life and around 5,000 missing person. According to Nepal police, among the total dead, 39% are men, 24.2% are women whereas 36.76% of bodies gender cannot be identified. The total people impacted by the flood is suspected to be around 90,000. The government has established 41 holding centres where 3,982 flood victims are being accommodated. According to Education Cluster, around 97,000 people have been impacted by the disaster, among which 38% are children below 18 years (8.4% below 5 years).

We saw affected children are facing life-long crises such as disability, orphanhood, mental trauma, lack of security, poverty, and loss of education. Most of the children have either lost one or both parents. The children who survive the disaster are looking at lifelong disability, orphanhood, and impact to their mental health of losing parents and their home.

2. Site Findings: Bageshwori Secondary School

2.1 What we found

Bageshwori Secondary School is one of the worst-affected schools we visited in Dhading. It is close to the Trishuli River and along the highway. The entire ground floor was filled with floodwater, mud, and silt. Toilets, water tanks, classrooms, furniture, outdoor play materials, and the children's school bags were all affected. Some items were buried in mud, while others were swept away. The school building is still standing, but the ground floor has suffered major damage. The detailed physical damage data is attached.

On the day of the flood, the school received an early warning from a guardian living upstream. This gave the teachers enough time to evacuate all the students safely. However, the children had to leave their bags, books, and other belongings behind. There are currently 416 students and 30 teachers and staff at the school.

2.2 UniCoN's response

UniCoN's aim was to help the school restart classes and support children to continue learning. After the flood, the UniCoN spoke with the Education Development and Coordination Unit (EDCU) of Dhading and the Education Department of Galchhi Rural Municipality. After learning about the school's situation and needs, and at their request, UniCoN provided 400 dozen notebooks, pens, school bags, toothpaste, toothbrushes, bathing soap, and sanitary pads for 400 children. The materials were handed over in the presence of the EDCU Chief and the Local Education Unit (LEU). The EDCU arranged the schoolbooks for all 400 students through another organization.



2.3 Current situation

With support from the community, other organizations, and the local government, the school is cleaning the mud and preparing to restart classes on September 8. However, many parents are still afraid to send their children to school, and the children are also worried that another flood could happen and they may have to run again, especially if they do not receive an early warning.

- The school does not have another place to restart classes, so it needs to prepare the children and parents to return and feel safe at school. At this stage, the school needs emotional support more than additional physical materials.
- The school also urgently needs drinking water, as its water filters and tanks were damaged. A toilet also needs to be built, which the local government and Shanti Nepal (local NGO of Dhading) are expected to support.
- Other needs include furniture, a computer lab, library, ECD classrooms, televisions, and other materials. The school has appealed for support for these needs.
- UniCoN believes that, at this stage, children should first be engaged in fun activities and extracurricular activities rather than being pushed directly into regular classes. As they gradually feel safer and recover from the experience, they can return to their regular learning. The focus should now be on helping the school and children recover, rather than repeating the same emergency distribution.



3. Site Findings: Trishuli Bazar

3.1 Scale of destruction

Trishuli Bazar, once a busy market town, has been severely affected by the flood. Many houses located along the riverbank were completely swept away, while some of the remaining houses are still filled with mud and debris. The market was located very close to the river, and the damage is so severe that the remaining houses are no longer safe to live in. At the time of the visit, there was no safe living condition in the affected area, and many families had been forced to leave their homes.



Pictures: Trishuli, Nuwakot

3.2 What residents told us

The team spoke with residents who were searching through the debris for any belongings that could be salvaged. Among them was Suchit Joshi, a local businessman who had run two businesses and owned two houses in the area — one of which he rented out, while his wife ran a clothing business from a rented shop.

"My wife, my daughter, and my brother's wife are all missing." — Suchit Joshi, Trishuli Bazar resident

His account, like those of several other residents the team spoke with, was harrowing to hear.

The affected families are currently staying at three holding centers. Many are still trying to find out what is left of their homes and businesses. Several organizations, volunteers, and the security forces are supporting the search and relief efforts. However, there are no excavators or other heavy machines available to clear the mud and debris. There is still a concern that people may be buried under the debris, and the search teams are doing their best to find them. Without proper equipment, the search is difficult and may take a long time.

3.3 Displacement

Residents told the team that the town itself — what remains of it — is still considered at high risk. Displaced residents are currently living across three holding centers set up on higher ground above the bazar, with one of these centers alone sheltering around 300 people.



Pictures: Holding center: Shree Bhairum Secondary School, Trishuli, Nuwakot

3.4 Relief supply assessment

A large number of organizations and individuals — including some celebrities — have already delivered relief materials to Trishuli Bazar. This support has been heavily concentrated on staple foods: rice, noodles, cucumber, lentils, cooking oil, and salt. Based on what residents reported and what the team observed in storage, current stocks of these staple items appear sufficient to last approximately the next 7–8 months.

However, the team identified a clear and significant gap: there is little to no supply of fresh vegetables, fruits, eggs, meat, or other perishable, nutrient-rich foods. There is also no baby food, and no provisions specifically for pregnant women, nursing mothers, or elderly residents — groups with distinct nutritional needs that staple food stocks alone do not meet. Most of the affected families are currently staying at three holding centers, which are also being used as temporary shelters. Many of them are still trying to find out what remains of their homes, shops, and other belongings. Some have lost their homes completely, while others are returning to the area to search through the mud and debris for anything they can recover.

Several organizations, volunteers, and security forces are supporting the families and helping with the search and cleanup. However, the lack of excavators and other heavy equipment is making the work very difficult. Much of the area is covered with thick mud, stones, and debris, and people are trying to clear it using whatever tools are available. There is still a concern that people may be buried under the debris, but the search is slow because of the lack of proper equipment.

The families are also facing uncertainty about where they will live and how they will restart their businesses and daily lives. At the time of the visit, many were focused on finding their lost family members and recovering whatever could be found from their homes and businesses. The immediate need is not only food and other basic supplies, but also support for search and rescue, temporary shelter, and the next steps for recovery.

Immediate Needs and Gaps

The main gap in Trishuli Bazar is that families have received some food and basic relief materials, but they still do not have a safe place to live or a clear way to restart their daily lives. The immediate needs identified during the visit are:



- Search and recovery: Excavators and other heavy equipment are urgently needed to clear mud and debris and continue the search for missing people.
- Temporary shelter: Many families have lost their homes and are staying in temporary holding centers. They need safe and suitable places to stay.
- Nutrition: Staple food has been provided, but there is still a gap in nutritious food, especially for children, pregnant and nursing mothers, and older people.
- Water and sanitation: Safe drinking water, toilets, bathing facilities, and hygiene materials are needed at the holding centers.
- Children and education: More than 600 children are currently out of school because schools are being used as temporary shelters. There is still no clear date for when classes can restart.
- Psychosocial support: Many children and adults have experienced loss, displacement, and fear. They need safe activities, emotional support, and someone to talk to.
- Livelihood recovery: Many families have lost their homes, shops, tools, livestock, and other sources of income. They will need support to restart their livelihoods once the immediate emergency is over.
- Families need clear information about missing people, shelter options, school reopening, relocation, and available government or relief support.
- Damage to water sources, tanks, filters, pipes, and temporary water supply.
- No enough toilets and bathing spaces at the holding centers, especially for women and children.
- Menstrual hygiene: Pads, proper disposal, and private spaces for women and girls.
- Stoves, gas/fuel, cooking utensils, and whether displaced families can prepare food themselves.
- Clothes, blankets, mattresses, sleeping mats, shoes, etc.
- Baby and infant needs: Diapers, baby food/formula, clothes, blankets, and other basic items.
- Health and medicine: First-aid supplies, basic medicines, regular medicines for people with ongoing needs, and access to health services.
- Safe spaces for children, women, elderly people, and people with disabilities.
- People with disabilities: Wheelchairs, walking support, medicines, and other specific needs.
- Support may later be needed to replace citizenship documents, birth certificates, school records, land documents, bank documents, etc.
- Waste management: Garbage collection, dead animals, mud, debris, and sanitation around the temporary shelters.



- Temporary education: Alternative learning spaces, temporary classes, learning materials, and activities for children while schools are being used as shelters.
- Livelihood recovery: Support for people who lost shops, stock, tools, equipment, livestock, or other sources of income.
- Some families need cash rather than more relief materials so they can meet their own immediate needs.
- Storage: Safe places for families to keep whatever belongings they were able to recover.
- Families whose homes are no longer safe may need temporary or permanent relocation support.

NEXT STEP for UniCoN

UniCoN is preparing a clear support plan for a three-month emergency and early recovery program targeting children and their mothers in the Trishuli area. The project concept will be developed based on the approval and coordination process with the CDO Office, Social Welfare Council, and the BDRRMA assessment/report, as well as the needs identified during UniCoN's field visit.

UniCoN will coordinate closely with the local government, schools, and organizations already working in the affected area to avoid duplication and ensure that the support reaches the areas where there are still gaps. Where possible, UniCoN will also work in collaboration with other organizations to make better use of available resources and reach more affected children and mothers.

The final project concept and three-month support plan will be shared separately with potential partners for support and collaboration.

To our wonderful supporters:

We would like to sincerely thank all our current donors who have supported our Nepal Flood Emergency campaign through GlobalGiving <https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/nepal-flood-emergency-help-families-survive/>.

We are especially grateful to Nepal Sonríe, Spain, Ms. Deva Fernandez, and Mr. Girish Chaudhary for their generous support and encouragement during this difficult time.

Your support has helped us take the next steps in responding to the affected communities. We are now working on the next phase of our response and recovery efforts, and we will continue to keep you updated on our progress and how your support is making a difference.

Thank you for standing with the affected families and communities of Nepal.